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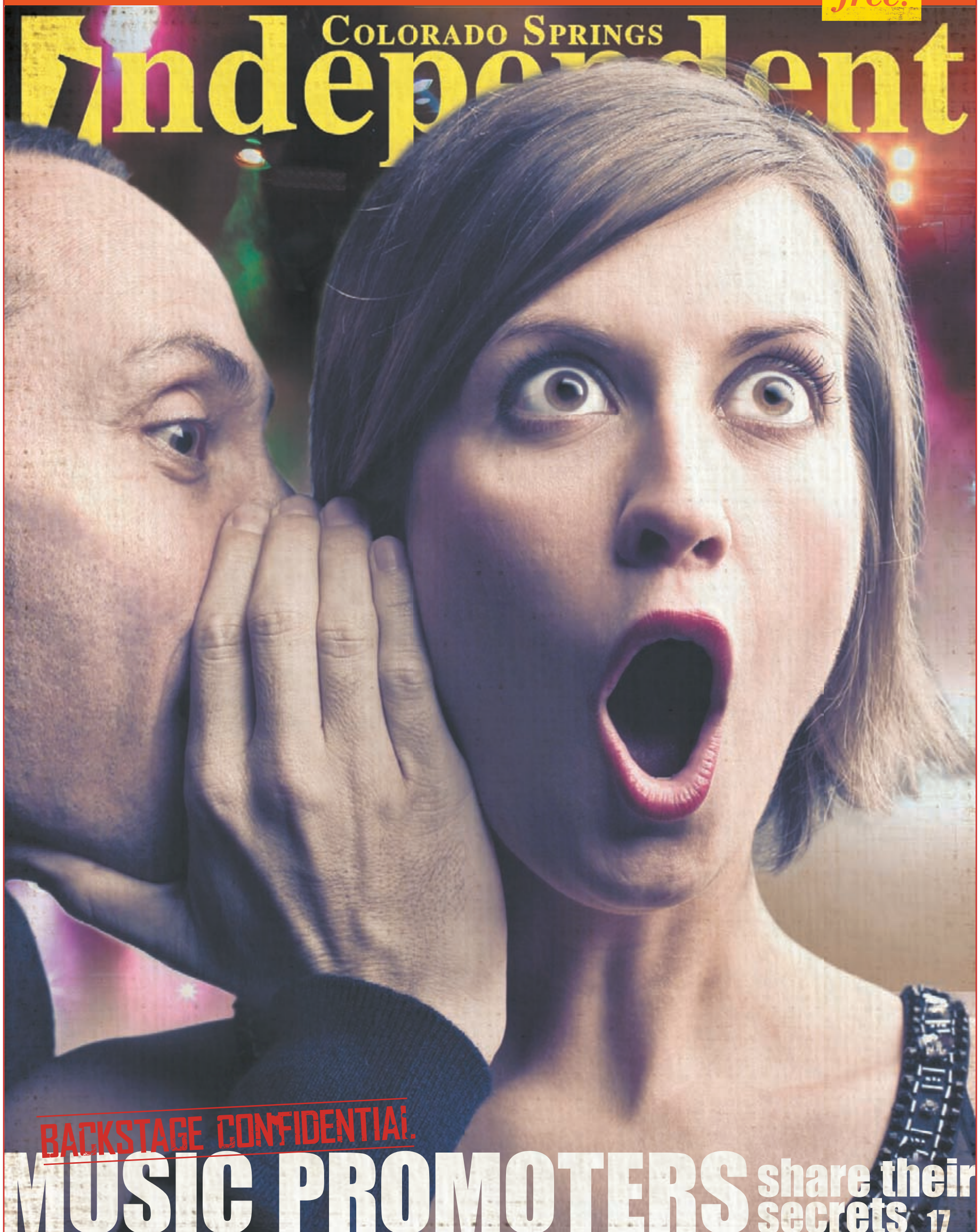

BACKSTAGE CONFIDENTIAL.

# MUSIC PROMOTERS share their secrets 17

By Bill Forman

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May the force be with you, Jonathan.

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## News: The parent trap

One twin squirmed. The other was strangely still. Jim and Rosi Cross had noticed the difference between their two boys since bringing them home from the hospital. But when a doctor told them that 4-month-old Brandon had cerebral palsy, it was still shocking.

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## Appetite: Scaled up

There's more heart behind the basics at Casey's Dog House Grill in Woodland Park than I've seen in some fine-dining dishes. Don Hagan at Casey's keeps it small and tight, and turns the ordinary into a little something special.

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## Film: Bludgeoning the Beats

If you didn't know that Jack Kerouac's novel *On the Road* was a seminal influence on postwar America, that it helped define a generation and even determined the course of significant aspects of modern pop culture, you would never, ever guess it from this soulless, pointless adaptation.

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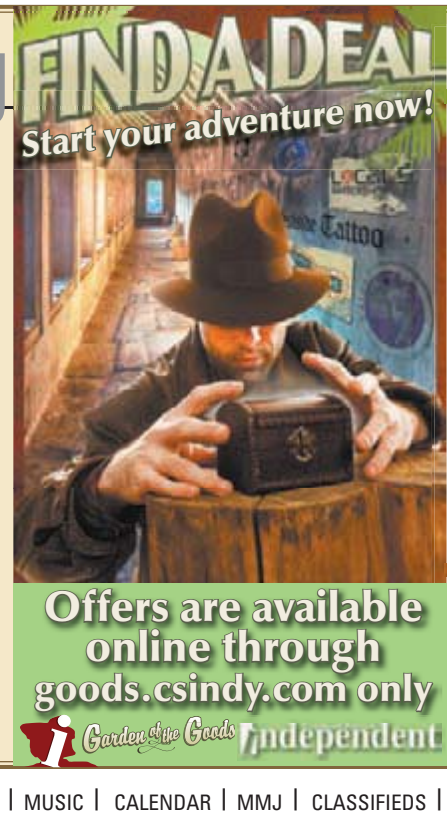
**On the Cover**
Design by art director Kathy Conarro.

## UpComing

Psst. Can you keep a secret? That's good ... because we can't. Tucked in next week's issue of the *Independent*, you'll find our annual *InSider* guide — a pullout packed with everything you need to know about dining, shopping, recreating and more in the Pikes Peak region.

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# SliceOfLife

Rebecca Tillett

*Pipeline party: Local dignitaries broke ground March 20 for a new Southern Delivery System water treatment plant near Marksheffel Road and Highway 94.*


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# Letters

**Editor, 235 S. Nevada Ave., CS, CO 80903 • e-mail: letters@csindy.com**

***If your comments are mailed or e-mailed to us, we'll consider them for publication — unless you request otherwise. Please include your name, city of residence and a daytime phone number for verification.***

## The smell test

I would like to set aside the legal question of the validity of the ethics complaint filed against Councilwoman Angela Dougan ("Dougan faces claim of ethics violation," IndyBlog, March 13) to address the important underlying issues involving public trust. Here is some practical advice for all Colorado Springs' elected officials and candidates.

When there is any question of the appearance of a conflict of interest, the citizens are owed full disclosure. While consultation with and approval from the city attorney may satisfy the legal requirement, public disclosure is also necessary to meet the much greater obligation to the public trust.

Second, for all elected officials (and top appointed officials) of the city, the wiser course would be to seek an advisory opinion from the Independent Ethics Commission, rather than from the city attorney's office.

Just a few months ago the Independent Ethics Commission made a presentation to City Council about its procedures, how it approaches complaints and requests for opinions, and the guidance it can provide. IEC Commissioner Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Malham Wakin stressed to Council that the most difficult ethics issues members would face are those involving "the appearance of a conflict of interest."

I suggest that such cases are the hardest to decide, and they are the situations most likely to lead to concerns about the violation of the public trust. Both city officials and the citizens are best served by those top officials seeking opinions from the IEC.

Third, this complaint was triggered by a campaign contribution from a corporation. Contributions to candidates from corporations and labor organizations are prohibited by the Colorado Constitution for the vast majority of public offices in the state. City Council used its home-rule authority to exempt itself from that prohibition. Had it not, the situation that led to this complaint would not have existed.

***— Gary Fornander***
***Colorado Springs***

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**'We've geo located the top and bottom of the incline to keep people honest.'**

*— From a CoPilot Creative press release announcing the debut of the Incline App, which allows you to track your time (and others' times) on the Manitou Incline.*

## A mom for Bensberg

My daughter means everything to me, and I am voting for Jim Bensberg. Though that might sound like a non sequitur, I will explain why it is not.

In 1997 when Jim was working for U.S. Sen. Wayne Allard, my daughter, age 4 at the time, was court ordered to visit opprobrious people, two biologically related, two not.

Of the myriad public figures I contacted, Jim was the only human being who helped.

Fearful for my daughter's safety, yet doing what I could without retribution, my challenge was finding an objective legal defense group that could potentially save my daughter from further court-ordered abuses.

Jim found that group for my 4-year-old.

Finally knowing someone in the world cared about children's safety, happiness, and well-being, I breathed a bit deeper. And though my little girl was forced into unspeakable situations for another eight years, she became empowered through Jim's help and that of a police officer. At 12, she emancipated herself from that horrifying situation. Everyone, especially her many teachers who worked to help her throughout elementary school, immediately saw the metamorphosis from an injured little girl into a beautiful, intelligent young lady.

I thank God for Jim Bensberg.

Jim believes as I do on another vital issue: money. As he has grown to become a friend of our family, and I his, we both live conservatively, wisely, with thought.

***— L.A. Westin***
***Colorado Springs***

## LongStoryShort

Ah, concerts. The first one I ever went to was a typically bizarre performance by Frank Zappa at a nearby college. As a junior high school student who wasn't very musically aware, I was both baffled and intrigued by the music I heard coming from onstage.

That was also the first time I ever ate at Jack in the Box, which resulted in a late-night adventure in food poisoning along the side of the highway, and I swear there was no alcohol involved.

From that point on, I was completely hooked. I've since gone to countless shows in warehouses and normal houses, clubs and theaters, alleys and arenas. Along with interviewing musicians, seeing live music is one of my favorite parts of being a journalist. And I owe at least part of that to Mr. Zappa.

Which brings us to this week's cover story, for which I had the opportunity to moderate a roundtable discussion with eight of our area's most prominent promoters. The resulting discussion begins on p. 17 and, trust me, these folks' stories are a lot better than mine.

Whether you're an artist who wants to navigate your way around a sometimes byzantine music scene, an avid club-goer who wants to know what's happening behind the scenes, or just a normal person who wants to read some pretty hilarious and insightful stories and observations, you'll likely find something to love. I know I did.

***— Bill Forman***

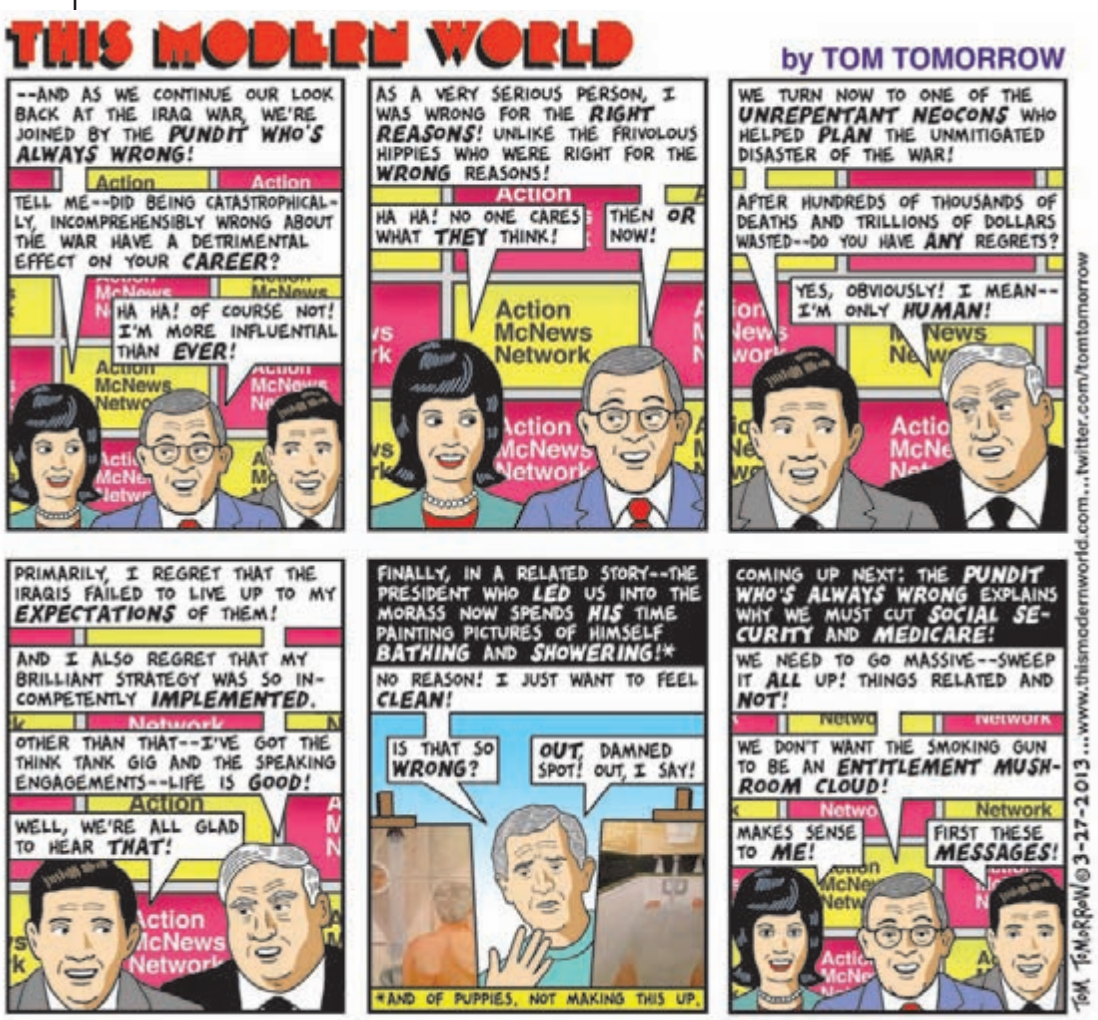
## Where they stand

Voters need to know how two candidates for City Council feel about GLBTs:

CitizenLink.com, a Focus on the Family affiliate, asked the candidates, "Do you support or oppose having the mayor issue a proclamation in support of the annual gay pride parade?" Here are their published answers:

Helen Collins, candidate, District 4: "No mayor would speak for the city in welcoming celebrations of perversion. I would vote against any such resolution or statement on the city council. I personally support traditional families and marriage, and I oppose publicly endorsing such 'diversity.'"

Roger McCarville, candidate, District 5: "The mayor should not recognize or dignify perverse behavior. He would not speak for most citizens if he does that. Therefore, he would not be speaking for the city. The mayor has enough to do without making silly proclamations to cater to fringe groups. I certainly would vote against


THIS MODERN WORLD
by TOM TOMORROW
--AND AS WE CONTINUE OUR LOOK BACK AT THE IRAQ WAR, WE'RE JOINED BY THE PUNDIT WHO'S ALWAYS WRONG!
TELL ME--DID BEING CATASTROPHICALLY, INCOMPREHENSIBLY WRONG ABOUT THE WAR HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON YOUR CAREER?
HA HA! OF COURSE NOT! I'M MORE INFLUENTIAL THAN EVER!
AS A VERY SERIOUS PERSON, I WAS WRONG FOR THE RIGHT REASONS! UNLIKE THE FRIVOLOUS HIPPIES WHO WERE RIGHT FOR THE WRONG REASONS!
HA HA! NO ONE CARES WHAT THEY THINK!
THEN OR NOW!
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WE TURN NOW TO ONE OF THE UNREPENTANT NEOCONS WHO HELPED PLAN THE UNMITIGATED DISASTER OF THE WAR!
AFTER HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DEATHS AND TRILLIONS OF DOLLARS WASTED--DO YOU HAVE ANY REGRETS?
YES, OBVIOUSLY! I MEAN--I'M ONLY HUMAN!
PRIMARILY, I REGRET THAT THE IRAQIS FAILED TO LIVE UP TO MY EXPECTATIONS OF THEM!
AND I ALSO REGRET THAT MY BRILLIANT STRATEGY WAS SO INCOMPETENTLY IMPLEMENTED.
OTHER THAN THAT--I'VE GOT THE THINK TANK GIG AND THE SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS--LIFE IS GOOD!
WELL, WE'RE ALL GLAD TO HEAR THAT!
FINALLY, IN A RELATED STORY--THE PRESIDENT WHO LED US INTO THE MORASS NOW SPENDS HIS TIME PAINTING PICTURES OF HIMSELF BATHING AND SHOWERING!*
NO REASON! I JUST WANT TO FEEL CLEAN!
IS THAT SO WRONG?
OUT, DAMNED SPOT! OUT, I SAY!
*AND OF PUPPIES, NOT MAKING THIS UP.
COMING UP NEXT: THE PUNDIT WHO'S ALWAYS WRONG EXPLAINS WHY WE MUST CUT SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE!
WE NEED TO GO MASSIVE--SWEEP IT ALL UP! THINGS RELATED AND NOT!
WE DON'T WANT THE SMOKING GUN TO BE AN ENTITLEMENT MUSHROOM CLOUD!
MAKES SENSE TO ME!
FIRST THESE MESSAGES!
TOM TOMORROW@3-27-2013...www.thismodernworld.com...twitter.com/tomtomorrow

Get Involved has moved to Volunteer Opportunities (p. 50) for the week.

such a proclamation or resolution by the city council."

Voters beware!

***— Joyce Cheney***
***Colorado Springs***

## Think long-term

I worked 30 years as an environmental engineer, the last six as a restoration manager responsible for overseeing the clean-up of a number of unintended chemical releases to soil and groundwater. I saw firsthand how containerized chemicals buried in the ground years earlier eventually escaped, causing persistent, and sometimes extensive, contamination.

I believe that in many cases those responsible for the burial of these chemicals were acting according to accepted standards of the day for waste disposal and had no intention of polluting. They simply didn't know all we know now about the toxicity and persistence of certain chemicals and the likelihood of their eventual release and spread in the environment.

We humans don't always know the ultimate consequences of our actions, particularly when it comes to interactions with nature. A case in point can be made for the current assurances we are given by experts about fracking technology. These experts tell us that the known hazardous chemicals being deliberately injected into the earth to fracture rocks to extract oil will have no long-term consequences. I wonder …

***— Lawrence M. Reisinger***
***Colorado Springs***

## Adoptions on the line

Religious liberty is no longer available in Colorado or the United States. In Colorado, the civil union bill last year had religious/moral conscience protection in the bill. This year, those protections are gone. Faith-based adoption agencies like Catholic Charities will shut down because they will not violate their conscience and place a child outside of a marriage relationship (one man and one woman). (See "Crossed out," p. 15).

Despite testimony from a birth mother, prospective adoptive parents, and our own attorney general on the value of Catholic Charities, without the conscience exception Catholic Charities' adoption services will shut down. Religious liberty is not taken into consideration.

I foresee the day when it will be illegal to practice our faith outside of our church walls on Sunday. Will we serve God and God's laws and face the consequences? Or will we acquiesce and delude our faith to fit into the culture?

As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord (Joshua 24:15).

***— Fr. Bill Carmody***
***Respect Life Director, Diocese of Colorado Springs***

## It's not funny

Where in the hell are the *Indy*'s editors? Bryce Crawford's insensitive and callous remarks in his review of Boonzaaijer's Dutch Bakery should never have made it to print (Dine & Dash, March 13).

In his attempt to entice readers with the "scent of confection in multiple display cases," he idiotically describes them as "reminders that diabetes comes in multitudes of wonderful shapes and colors."

Really? In what world does diabetes ever equate with "wonderful shapes and colors?"

Diabetes is not fodder for pompous food critics. Diabetes is a deadly serious disease, for which there is no cure. It impacts the lives of millions and millions of human beings around the world. Diabetics are threatened with nerve damage, kidney failure, blood clots, heart problems, loss of eyesight and death throughout their lives. Are those the "wonderful shapes and colors" Crawford is referring to?

***— Kay Jones-Hutchins***
***Colorado Springs***

## The conservative line

Those who call themselves "conservative" tend to focus on the individual. But not when it comes to "the troops" and corporations.

Doug Holdread's March 20 letter, "The military's two faces," observes that support-the-troops rhetoric is sometimes a euphemism for "don't criticize spending on the military-industrial complex." When funding wars, deficits don't matter.

But deficits do matter, a lot, when it's an individual focus to "support the soldiers." Example: Last September, Senate Republicans filibustered a $1 billion jobs bill to address 11-percent veteran unemployment; it would have put veterans to work tending federal lands and staffing local police and fire departments. Republicans opposed it because there are veterans' job training programs; never mind that those programs may not result in actual jobs.

And conservatives love "unions of money" — called corporations — that use the collective power of money to increase return on capital. But they despise unions of persons that seek to increase returns for work. Republicans say, "Corporations are people, my friend," even as they pass laws making it harder for real people to vote.

Conservatives love get-tough-on-crime laws for people, but promote deregulation — read: lawlessness — to increase corporate "freedom" to pollute, injure and kill. "Burdensome regulation" prevents our "freedom" to rob banks.

Conservatives say they hate collectives ... smacks of commies, doncha know. But they love conservative collectives when they support their economic interests and ideology.

***— Bob Powell***
***Colorado Springs***

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*"One of the finest natural history writers around."*
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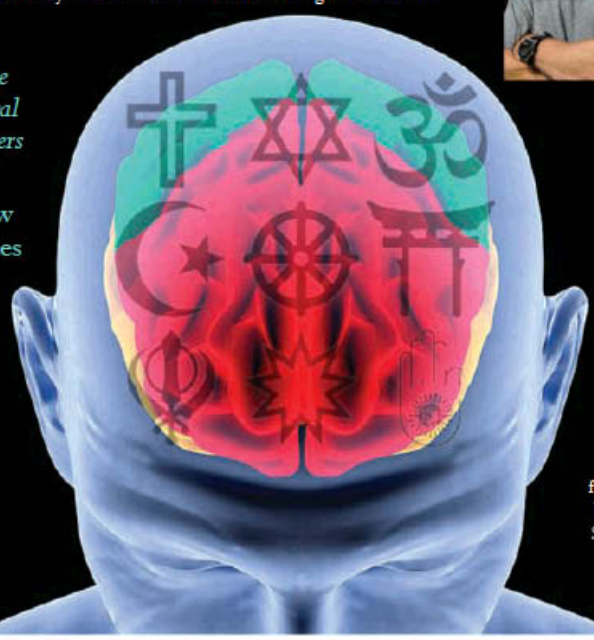

Additional funding provided by the Cornelia Sabine Endowed Fund for Psychology.


# StreetSmarts

## Music matters

The live music choices in Colorado Springs seem to get better all the time, but there are still some hurdles to overcome.

***Michael Smith*** of ***Fountain*** works for ***the county***

**Do you go out to see live music?** If it's good.

**In your opinion, what's good?** I'm from Texas, so I like Americana country — a cross between rock and country.

**What's your favorite concert memory?** There's a bunch. The Judds were great because they have a lot of audience interaction. When I saw Bob Seger, the sax player had a harness on, got up on top of the speakers, jumped off and did flips during "Night Moves." And when I saw the Rolling Stones in Dallas in the early '80s, ZZ Top opened for them.

**How important is a strong music scene locally?** It would be really good for bringing in tourists and revenue. The city needs to get into the culture of doing that, especially outside with street dances and block parties.

***Janet Carlisle*** of ***downtown*** is ***retired***

**Do you like to go out to see live music?** If it's available.

**What's the last concert you attended?** It was just two days ago. I saw the Dunwells at Studio Bee. It was excellent, very fun, in a small, intimate venue.

**What's one band or performer you'd like to see play the Springs?** The Dave Matthews Band.

**How important is a strong music scene to a city?** Very important. In a city this size, we need more music, arts and culture. But the local scene is starting to pick up.

**What do you think is the biggest challenge to promoters?** Probably lack of venue; there's nothing big enough. And then if someone really good but up-and-coming comes here, no one goes. Maybe better marketing would help.

***Michael Koehler*** of the ***west side*** is a ***cook, student and musician***

**Do you go out very often to see live music?** Yes, I especially like to support local shows.

**Who have you seen recently?** I went to Rawkus to see Claymore Disco, the Knightbeats and Murder Hat.

**Who would you like to see come to the Springs?** Anti-Flag, or Of Mice and Men.

**How important is it for a city to have a strong music scene?** Very important. There's a lot of wasted potential here, and in Denver. Churchill from Denver has gone international. The potential is going out the door.

**What would help the local music scene?** The musicians need to network more, for more unity and sharing of ideas.

***— Kendall Kullman***


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# CitySage

By John Hazlehurst

## Sizing up the political scene

The City Council candidate forum season came to a merciful close last Thursday, as the Forum for Civic Advancement hosted the 22 survivors at the Penrose House for a "roundtable discussion with the candidates."

Food and drink were supplied, but the canny **Kyle Hybl** of El Pomar Foundation withheld both snacks and libations from the ravenous crowd until each hopeful had spoken his or her piece.

For both the media and the sparse entourages accompanying most candidates, it was a dreary event. There were no angry confrontations, no impassioned speeches that we hadn't already heard, no new issues to discuss — just the same group of players strutting and fretting their hour upon the stage, most to be heard no more.

Bizarrely enough, **Tom Gallagher** and **Bill Murray** were in attendance although neither spoke. Their names will appear on the ballot, although each abandoned his campaign and endorsed a rival. One wonders why Hybl (or, better still, his spouse **Sally**) didn't bring them to the stage and croon "Beauty School Drop-Out" to the less-than-dynamic duo.

**The word 'follow' is not in their vocabulary.**

As the campaigns wind down, here's a sampling of what we've learned:

• Every candidate claims to be a leader. Just listen to them speechify. They've led in business, military, previous political office, family life, the nonprofit world, as volunteers, board members and community activists. They've stepped up; they've listened, learned and led; they've made a difference, and they all love Colorado Springs! And when they're elected, they will lead even more! The word "follow" is not in their vocabulary, though most pledge to "work with" Mayor **Steve Bach**.

• **Angela Dougan** isn't just a conservative, she's a conservative conservative! **Brandy Williams** is an engineer! **Joel Miller** really, really doesn't like Dougan, and he has *two* engineering degrees! And among all of them, few seem interested in the disagreeable routines of Council. They talk about "my residents," "my constituents" and "the problems of my district," but only Dougan gets granular, pledging to go to bat for a constituent with a burned-out streetlight. And though I often disagree with her on matters of policy — make that almost always — she's the one I'd call. Think city employees enjoy being pestered by Dougan? She can be nasty and persistent and has Bach's ear. She'd get your pothole filled.

• **Keith King** may be running for Council, but he has more in mind. He's all about restructuring city government, streamlining procedures, Utilities governance and so forth. Those are issues that properly concern the mayor and, as some may recall, Bach sort-of said initially he'd serve only a single term. So if King gets elected and persuades his new colleagues to choose him as Council president, he might be well-placed to become our second strong mayor.

(And speaking of candidates for higher office, what's going on with El Paso County Sheriff **Terry Maketa**? As the *Indy* reported last week, he decided to go all medieval in his opposition to new gun-control measures — the kind of posturing that plays well with the extreme right, but doesn't make sense if Maketa wants to oppose U.S. Sen. **Mark Udall** in 2014, as some have speculated. Maybe he's running for an entirely different office: Maketa might have a real shot at deposing incumbent U.S. Rep. **Doug Lamborn**, but needs to position himself as far to the right as possible. Locking up the gunnies is a good first move.)

One more thing: It's sad to see the libelous strategies of statewide and national politics infect our petty local election. **Joe Barrera, Tim Leigh, Angela Dougan, Brandy Williams** and **Ed Bircham** have all been targeted by hit pieces. The largely anonymous authors of mailers, billboards, Facebook ads and TV commercials have made ludicrous accusations, for reasons best known to those who funded the ads.

Can the city craft election ordinances requiring these shadowy organizations to identify their principals, and the source(s) of their funds? Such ordinances are easy to write and hard to enforce, but that doesn't mean our elected officials should shrug their shoulders.

If this city stands for anything, it should stand for fair, free, above-board elections. Refusing to do so encourages and enables those who care nothing for moral and ethical behavior in politics.

Sure, it's a rough game — but even the roughest of games have rules.

*— hazlehurst@csindy.com*


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Marian Percy, Deputy Child Welfare Administrator • Family Preservation, Dept. of Human Services, El Paso County

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FOX21 NEWS

# LowDown

By Jim Hightower

## DHS is bullish on bullets

Many people buy in bulk. Why purchase toilet paper a four-pack at a time, goes their thinking, when I can make one trip and pick up a year's supply?

This stock-up mentality can make sense — up to a point. A year's supply of toilet paper? Check. But a hundred year's worth? What, are you nuts?

Which brings us to the Department of Homeland Security. This conglomeration of airport screeners, border patrol agents and other armed federal forces is a major purchaser of guns — and guns need bullets. So it's no surprise that DHS would make a bulk bullet buy. But it is somewhere way north of surprising that it purchased 1.6 billion bullets!

**DHS is stockpiling enough for a 20-year hot war.**

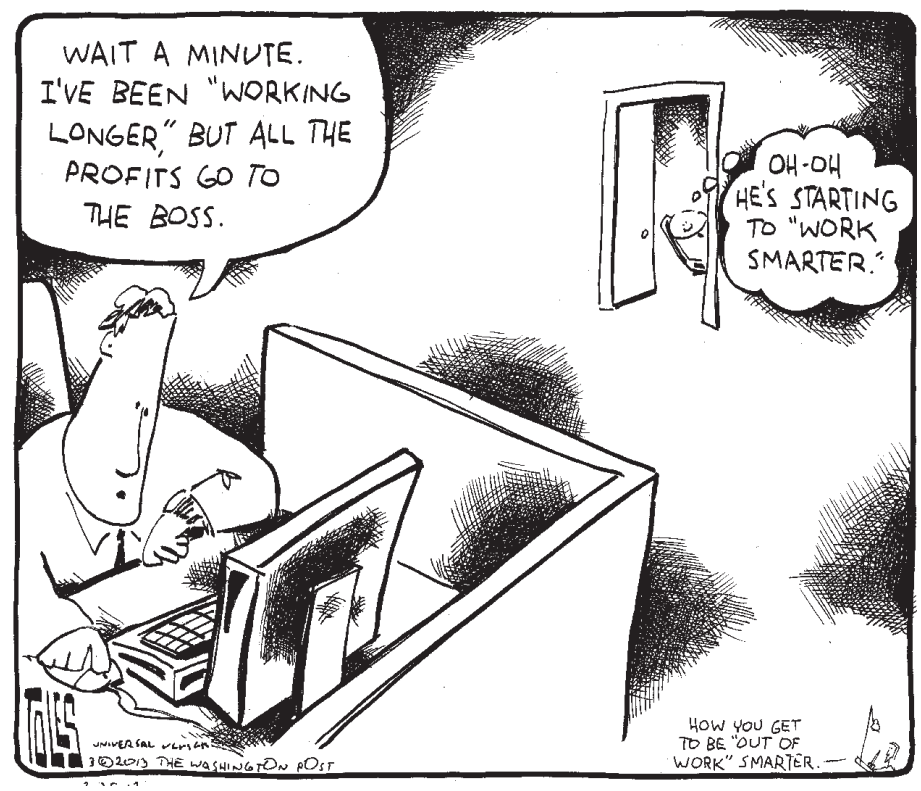
You might wonder: Is that a lot? Well, at the police agency's current use of 15 million rounds a year fired at its training centers and in the course of official duty, 1.6 billion is more than a hundred-year supply of ammo. Or think of it this way: At the peak of the Iraq War, our army was shooting 6 million rounds a month, so DHS is stockpiling enough for a 20-year hot war.

Now, let's wonder about this: Why? Homeland Security, as its name states, is a domestic force, so what war is it anticipating? Also, these 1.6 billion bullets are just not little poppers — *Forbes* magazine notes that they include hollow-point rounds that are even outlawed for use in war, as well as "a frightening amount [of bullets] specialized for snipers." Again: why?

DHS says blandly that it's just a matter of getting a better price by making a big buy. Another theory is they're doing it because they can — Congress will OK any purchase wrapped with a homeland security ribbon. Then there's the conspiracy theorists who say that We the People are the target of the buildup.

I don't buy that, but the question remains: Why? Shouldn't someone in Congress be inquiring?

*Jim Hightower is the best-selling author of* **Swim Against the Current: Even a Dead Fish Can Go With the Flow***, on sale now from Wiley Publishing. For more information, visit jimhightower.com.*


WAIT A MINUTE. I'VE BEEN "WORKING LONGER," BUT ALL THE PROFITS GO TO THE BOSS.
OH-OH HE'S STARTING TO "WORK SMARTER."
HOW YOU GET TO BE "OUT OF WORK" SMARTER.
TOLES
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# BetweentheLines

By Ralph Routon

## Bach's latest victim

Like much of the "dirty work" inside Colorado Springs city government during the past two years, the announcement of **Mark Earle**'s sudden ouster as aviation director at the airport came as a simple release last Friday afternoon, clearly intended to avoid big headlines and negative reaction going into a weekend that started Spring Break for much of the area.

The administration of Mayor **Steve Bach** has handled enough of these "resignations" to make them look like happy farewells, totally cordial, complete with glowing statements of mutual respect and appreciation.

Sorry, not buying it. Earle's removal looks and smells like yet another rendition of other quiet departures: **Richard Myers** as police chief; **Pat Kelly** as city attorney; **Lisa Bigelow** as budget director; **Nancy Johnson** as head of Parks, Planning and Public Works (assistant city manager before that); **Terri Velasquez** as finance director, **Kathryn Young** as city clerk, **Ann Crossey** as head of human resources; **Dave Krauth** as principal traffic engineer; **Sue Skiffington-Blumberg** as head of communications, **Dick Anderwald** as land development review division manager, and many more — at least 25 now, and counting.

**Frontier left and Earle became the scapegoat.**

All had been considered assets to the city, some (including Earle) more valuable than others — until Bach was elected mayor. But instead of playing the hand he was dealt, Bach has chosen to cast aside many top people, giving them severance packages that seem to prevent them from talking publicly.

Earle is the latest example. It doesn't matter that he has years of success in the airport business. Never mind that he built highly positive relationships with the Air Force in leasing much of the airport for Peterson Air Force Base, and the Army dealing with Fort Carson's many deployments in the past decade. Nobody seems to care that Earle had been superb at securing federal aviation grants, saving money to pull off major improvements, and helping cultivate the airport business-park concept with major defense contractors.

That wasn't enough for Bach. As the mayor put it in an interview with the *Gazette*, he wanted Earle to be more aggressive in courting more airlines and service. Earle felt justified with his softer approach, given how volatile and treacherous the airline industry could be. It wasn't his fault that Frontier had to give up the planes being used between here and Denver to its parent, Republic Airlines.

And was it Earle's responsibility that Southwest Airlines never has wanted to add service here, especially after committing so heavily to Denver? For the record, even during better economic times, former Mayor **Lionel Rivera** made it a top priority to pursue Southwest — to no avail.

Three months ago, Earle spent much of an afternoon talking about the airport's struggles in the post-recession airline market, but also its newest renovations.

In his decade as the airport's aviation director, overseeing the city enterprise, Earle had endured many ups and downs. He was proud of finishing the airport's new facelift — expanding the area and facilities for security, enhancing the aesthetics with new "gateway" ambience to greet incoming passengers, and upgrading the main concourse's concessions with Bristol Brewing Co. becoming the bar/restaurant alongside Denver's Novo Coffee. But he also knew the airlines could make changes at any time, and Frontier drove that point home in January by deciding suddenly to end its service between the Springs and Denver, followed by plans to leave altogether in April.

For that, Earle became the scapegoat. At 57, he has a good enough reputation to find another job somewhere — which will only be enhanced by his agreeing to advise the city, and interim director **Dan Gallagher**, for the rest of the year. But Earle wanted to be here for the long haul. He believed the improving economy would lead to added air service in and out of Colorado Springs, and the business and consumer public having more money to spend on travel.

Yet, because the mayor has a different view, Mark Earle is out of here. And he's getting one of those nice severance deals, so we won't be finding out what he really thinks.

This is wrong. And it's not what city residents thought they were getting with the strong-mayor government. Was our city so bad that the only solution was a top-level housecleaning?

Or, to put it another way, who's next?

*— routon@csindy.com*

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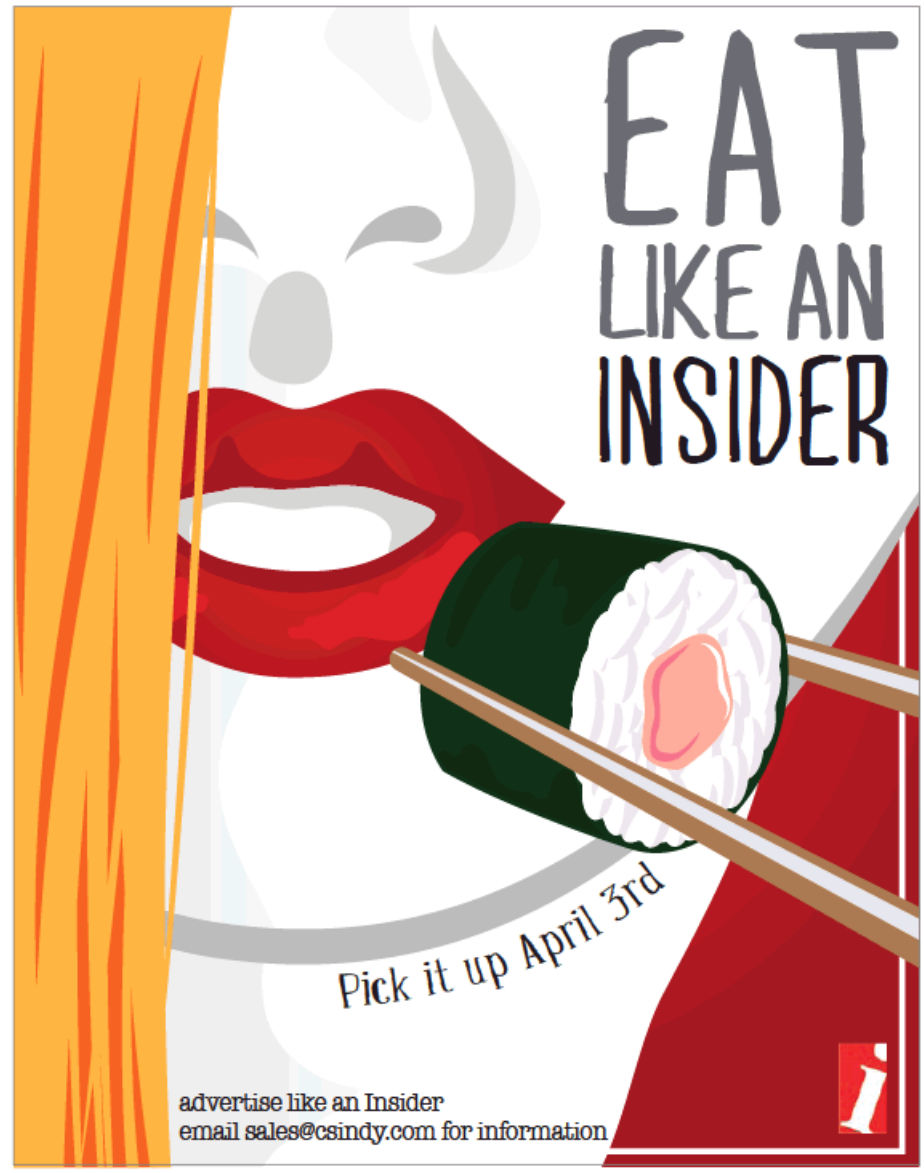

# Looking for signs

## Who's pumping cash into City Council campaigns?

**By Chet Hardin and Pam Zubeck**

Everyone knows the Broadmoor area is the richest in the city. And in this year's Colorado Springs City Council election, it's acting like it.

The race for District 3, which covers that area, has seen five candidates garnering 36 percent of all campaign contributions made citywide. Beyond that, you can trace $1 of every $7 back to donors in the Broadmoor-area 80906 ZIP code, according to the *Independent*'s analysis of campaign contributions through the March 15 filing deadline.

Candidates running in District 3, which also covers the west side and downtown, have amassed a total of $112,411. The next-highest total was raised by the four candidates in District 5, which covers the city's middle section, with $55,564.

From there, the rankings are: north District 2, 15 percent; northwest District 1, 11 percent; and the south District 4 and eastern District 6, 10 percent each.

Meanwhile, donors in 80906 gave $44,279, while $50,519 came from 80903, which covers downtown and includes addresses of several political action committees, such as the Regional Business Alliance, the Housing and Building Association and the Colorado Springs Police Protective Association.

Of the 24 candidates (including two who've recently ended their bids), Keith King raised the most money, $59,819, which includes $10,459 transferred from his previous state Senate campaign, in his District 3 bid. Second-highest is Brandy Williams, in the same district, with $31,634.

The analysis also shows that the 10 most generous donors account for $107,579 in donations, more than 34 percent of the total raised by all candidates. That includes $48,500 from developer/builder interests and $35,500 from three political action committees.

Who gave the most money? The Police Protective Association PAC, which gave $18,000 to six candidates, five of whom lead the way in fundraising: King, Angela Dougan, Tim Leigh, Jill Gaebler and Deborah Hendrix.

"I want someone that's a critical thinker that can make some decisions, that's not afraid to make some decisions," PPA president Dave Henrichsen says. "This Council has had some tough things on their plate, and at times, I've felt, they don't want to make some decisions, they don't want to ruffle any feathers."

Henrichsen says the PPA didn't pay attention to what candidates said they'd do for public safety, but rather widened its scope to include stormwater, utilities and pensions.

Unlike some congressional campaigns, the local races have drawn only $11,080 from out-of-state donors, usually family members of the candidates. That's 3.5 percent of the total raised.

It should be noted that Bob Kinsey in District 3 raised only $40 total; Julie Naye hasn't reported any donations; and Ed Bircham is funding his own campaign.

Here are the top 10 donors: Police Protective Association PAC, $18,000; Consuelo Williams (Brandy Williams' mother), $17,500; Housing and Building Association PAC, $17,500; Committee to Elect Keith King, $10,459; MDC Holdings, Denver (parent company of Richmond Homes), $10,000; Elite Properties of America, $9,500; the Broadmoor resort, $7,120; Oakwood Homes, $6,500; Mark and Carol Bogosian, $6,000; Richmond Homes, $5,000.

And the 10 candidates with the most money: Keith King (D3), $59,819; Brandy Williams (D3), $31,634; Angela Dougan (D2), $31,174; Tim Leigh (D1), $20,375; Jill Gaebler (D5), $19,809; Deborah Hendrix (D4), $19,355; David Moore (D6), $17,545; Jim Bensberg (D3), $17,168; Bernie Herpin (D5), $13,744; Roger McCarville (D5), $12,695.

***— newsroom@csindy.com***

***Interns Miguel Bustamante and Craig Lemley contributed to this report.***

## Bankrolling

### The five biggest donors as of March 15

| | |
|---|---|
| Police Protective Association PAC | $18,000 |
| Consuelo Williams | $17,500 |
| Housing and Building Association PAC | $17,500 |
| Committee to Elect Keith King | $10,459 |
| MDC Holdings, Denver | $10,000 |

***Source: City of Colorado Springs campaign finance reports***

# About those legal bills ...

If a City Council member, appointee or some other Colorado Springs official gets hit with an allegation of an ethics violation that's heard by the city's Independent Ethics Commission, the city will pay for up to $10,000 in legal expenses — as long as the accused is "completely exonerated." If not, that city official or appointee will be on the hook personally.

That consensus was reached by Council in a closed executive session Monday and announced by President Scott Hente. Council will vote formally on the matter April 9.

The policy applies to Council members, appointees, members of boards, committees and commissions, and the mayor. Legal expenses exceeding $10,000 can be submitted for consideration by Council, which could approve additional costs. Council's word is final and cannot be appealed.

The resolution, if approved, will be retroactive to pertain to the alleged violations of Councilman Tim Leigh, which are currently under investigation by the Ethics Commission. Leigh has been accused by David Neumann, president of Neumann Systems Group, of seeking personal gain through his company (a city contractor), and of having a conflict of interest related to the political question of whether the downtown Martin Drake Power Plant should be shuttered. NSG's coal-scrubbing technology could extend the life of the plant; Leigh, a commercial real estate broker, represents some downtown property owners who ostensibly would stand to gain from new development in that area.

***— Pam Zubeck***

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# The parent trap

## Families of children with disabilities face a new challenge — less money for in-home care

**By J. Adrian Stanley**

One twin squirmed. The other was strangely still.

Jim and Rosi Cross had noticed the difference between their two boys since bringing them home from the hospital. But when a doctor told them that 4-month-old Brandon had cerebral palsy, it was still shocking.

Kin Scott

*Jim and Rosi Cross won't give up their son Brandon to foster care, but others may not have the choice.*

Brandon would never walk. He wouldn't learn at the same rate as his brother. And he would always need help eating and getting to the bathroom. Rosi's plans of returning to work were dashed.

That was 15 years ago. Since then, Jim says, "We've never had anyone in to care for him. [Rosi] has never had a break."

The Crosses aren't rich, and as Brandon aged, his special needs began to strain the family budget. Colorado Medicaid money began filling the gap.

Now, however, recent changes to state Medicaid are leading to cutbacks that are hurting the Crosses and other families with children who have disabilities. For many, the cuts couldn't come at a worse time. Some families are even facing giving up their children because they can no longer support them.

The Crosses have no such plans for Brandon, but they are struggling. During the recession, Jim lost his job at a car dealership, and the family lost their home in the Black Forest area. The Crosses moved to Peyton, where they rent a red house on a stretch of short grass prairie. Jim took a job as an over-the-road truck driver. Over the course of a month and a half, he's lucky to get three days at home.

### Changing the system

Brandon is, in many ways, an average child.

He loves *Harry Potter*, video games and jokes, and he has a tendency to dodge responsibilities he doesn't like. (In his case, physical therapy ranks high.) He spends his time at school, or hanging out at home with his mom and siblings.

Before the 1980s, quadriplegic children like Brandon usually grew up in an institution. It was thought they were too big a burden for families to handle.

These days, families are encouraged to keep such kids in the home, and to seek Medicaid assistance. The state offers help to low-income families, of course, but also has a special program for somewhat higher-income families. Together, the programs help about 4,400 kids statewide.

Medicaid awards a certain number of hours with a home-visiting certified nursing assistant or a nurse, based on need. CNAs are hired from approved providers, but often a family member simply gets the training, goes to work for a home health care agency, and serves his or her own family. Medicaid pays the agency, and the agency pays the family member.

That's what Rosi's done. Though Medicaid pays as much as $33.21 per hour for CNA services, she receives $12 an hour to care for her son.

She used to get paid for seven hours of work each weekday and 11 hours a day on the weekends, based on an evaluation of Brandon's needs. But now her benefits are being slowly reduced. By May she'll be locked in at a new reimbursement rate — four hours a day, every day.

Here's why: Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing representatives say they have replaced subjective evaluation methods for determining hours with a new, standardized "Pediatric Home Assessment Tool." That tool, a questionnaire about the specific needs of a child and the ability of the family to meet those needs, clearly defines the responsibilities of a parent or adult in the home, versus a CNA or nurse. Points are assessed for each question, and at-home nursing hours are then based on total points, though appeals are possible.

The tool is needed, says Rachel Reiter, department spokesperson, because Medicaid can only pay for treatments and services that are a "medical necessity" — which only a trained professional can provide. With few exceptions, Reiter explains, "Federal requirements for home health services do not allow for reimbursement for non-professional or 'unskilled' services."

The state spent years developing the tool, and formed a committee of experts to review it. The new system has saved the state money, though representatives won't say how much and insist that changes weren't based on financial interests.

**So far, Medicaid has denied every appeal.**

Less than two months into the change, however, families say the system isn't reasonable. For instance, just because a second adult lives in the house, that doesn't mean he or she can care for the child, as the tool assumes. Take the Crosses.

"I'm married, even though my husband is absent," notes Rosi. "You lose points on [the marriage]. You lose points, too, because I don't have children under 10. ...

"[Brandon] is not incontinent ... and he lost lots of points on this. And I asked my nurse, too, 'What is harder? To change somebody's diaper, or [get a 15-year-old boy] to the bathroom?'"

Experts add another critique, saying the new assessment tool was never piloted before it was fully implemented. (Medicaid representatives note that there was a pilot, but it didn't attract enough participation to be reliable.)

"It's impacting kids with significant physical disabilities, and I don't think the state anticipated that," says Dr. Patricia Yeager, chief executive officer of the Independence Center, a local nonprofit that advocates for those with disabilities. "... They've interpreted [medical necessity] in a very narrow way. And so I do think the state is trying to save money."

### 'Significant hardship'

Kids with significant disabilities generally can't be watched by a regular day care provider or babysitter, and the state doesn't supply special day care. Thus, many parents today are left with two options: Stay at home with their child — and try to get by without a job and reduced state support — or surrender their child to the state.

Beyond being heartbreaking, the latter option can be logistically daunting, since few foster homes take kids with disabilities. Nevertheless, Yeager says, "We've got a couple of parents saying, 'I guess I'm going to relinquish my child.' And the state's not ready for that."

Yeager, whose organization receives and manages some Medicaid funding, says many of her clients have seen their paid hours cut in half, including the single mother of an older child with no arms or legs, and the grandmother of a child who can only blink and breathe on her own.

The state did need a new system for awarding hours, Yeager says, because the federal government has requirements, and a standardized system cuts back on Medicaid fraud. But she thinks the questionnaire needs to be reworked. In fact, a meeting between advocates and state employees is planned for April, and many hope the state will agree to tweaks.

Elisabeth Arenales, health program director for the Colorado Center on Law and Policy, is among them.

"Disability advocates were very clear with the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing before the new Pediatric Assessment Tool was put into use, that it would create significant hardship for a wide range of children with disabilities and their families," she writes in an e-mail to the *Independent*. "They were right."

Representatives from the state say they remain open to suggestions.

Meanwhile, the Independence Center has already filed an initial appeal on behalf of 26 client families that have seen hours cut. Medicaid has denied every request on first review. Some clients have pursued the issue further, having family doctors contact Medicaid on their behalf. If all else fails, families can take their case to an administrative law judge.

The Crosses say they, too, are considering their options.

"Gas prices [are] going up, food going up, utilities going up, health insurance going up," Jim says. "We see some bad times coming here down the road."

***— stanley@csindy.com***

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# Noted

News briefs from the Front Range

## Flood funding approved

The U.S. Congress has finally approved $65.5 million in Emergency Watershed Protection funds for the nation.

The money will be awarded through grants to areas with flood risks, and it's thought that Colorado Springs and El Paso County will get all or most of the $9.6 million (including local matching money) that has been requested.

"Communities in Colorado will finally be able to complete these vital recovery projects that will protect drinking water and watershed infrastructure," Sen. Michael Bennet stated in a press release. "Colorado's Congressional delegation worked together to secure these resources, and I am glad we finally have resolution for the state. Colorado is ready to put these resources to work."

The money had been included in a bill last year, but Congress watched that bill expire in early January. A separate bill for Hurricane Sandy relief passed weeks later, but without the fire-related funding.

The millions can do a lot to prevent a nightmare flooding scenario as described in last week's cover story, "Black water," but there are caveats. Projects take time, and no project will reduce flood risk to pre-fire levels. Plus, the area will likely need even more money than originally thought — new studies will soon reveal the full extent of mitigation work that's needed. — ***JAS***

## Food-stamp numbers up

The Great Recession is over, but the downturn is still affecting many families, according to one good indicator.

In January, El Paso County processed its highest number of food-assistance cases ever, 31,694. That amounts to 71,336 people making so little money that they can't afford groceries.

Though the numbers fell slightly in February, to 31,021 cases and 69,816 people, the trend has generally been worrisome. In February 2012, there were just 28,816 cases, or 66,102 people on food stamps. Four years before that, in February 2008, there were just 14,217 cases, or 34,743 people. — ***JAS***

## CSU in the clear

State regulators have closed a compliance order issued to Colorado Springs Utilities in 2003 due to sewage spills that befouled Fountain Creek and other places, much to the chagrin of folks downstream.

The March 8 letter noted that CSU's Jan. 29 notice of completion "was satisfactory and Colorado Springs has fully responded to and met its obligations" pursuant to the compliance order.

Utilities paid more than $400,000 in fines relating to the spills and spent upward of $170 million to correct problems, from replacing manhole covers to fortifying pipes that cross creeks. — ***PZ***

## Last chance to vote

Ballots in Tuesday's city election are due at a designated drop-off site by 7 p.m. on election day.

All locations are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday. Those sites include:

Colorado Springs City Clerk's Office, 30 S. Nevada Ave., which also will have a curb-side drop point on election day; Colorado Springs Senior Center, 1514 N. Hancock Ave.; Fire Station No. 8, 3737 Airport Road; Stetson Hills Police Substation, 4110 Tutt Blvd.; Pikes Peak Library District – East Library, 5550 N. Union Blvd.; Citizens' Service Center, 1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road; Centennial Hall, 200 S. Cascade Ave.; County Division of Motor Vehicles, 5650 Industrial Place, #100; and North Union Town Center, 8830 N. Union Blvd., which also is open 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

# Cheat sheet

*Indy* picks for the April 2 election

### City Council races*

**District 1:** Don Knight
**District 2:** Joel Miller
**District 3:** Brandy Williams
**District 4:** Dennis Moore
**District 5:** Jill Gaebler
**District 6:** Andres Pico

### Ballot issues

**Issue 1** (TOPS reallocation): No
**Issue 2** (Council pay increase): Yes

**For the latest campaign finance info, see tinyurl.com/Indyfinance.*

Voters will elect City Council representatives from six districts and vote on two ballot measures: increasing Council pay and allowing for reallocation of Trails, Open Space and Parks money, currently set aside for parks acquisition and development, to parks maintenance. — ***PZ***

## PPCC to expand downtown

Pikes Peak Community College has purchased a vacant 10,135-square-foot building near its Downtown Studio Campus.

The building, at 22 N. Sierra Madre St., went for $727,000. In the short term, the property will be used to provide 80 more parking spaces for students, but eventually it's thought that the space could be used to expand the campus.

PPCC's downtown campus, which is home to most of its arts programs and its weekend classes, has grown faster than its other campuses. Since 2006, the school reports, course offerings downtown have expanded by 50 percent. — ***JAS***

***Briefs compiled by J. Adrian Stanley and Pam Zubeck. For more, visit csindy.com.***

# St. John's 'amazing weekend'

## Court rules local congregation can finally oust controversial pastor

File photo

It was a dark time for the church the Rev. Milton Proby built. Once the largest African-American congregation in Colorado Springs, St. John's Baptist counted only a few dozen regular congregants early last year ("Damn shame," cover story, Jan. 19, 2012). Dozens of long-time members had been forced out by the pastor, Willie J. Sutton Jr.

Sutton claimed the congregants were sowing unrest; they argued Sutton was a bullying and thuggish fraud. And Denver-based attorney Edward Hopkins believed them: Working pro bono, he filed a lawsuit to oust Sutton.

On Friday, El Paso County District Court finally ruled that Sutton indeed had no legal right to maintain control over the church. On Saturday, court order in hand, embattled congregant Kathleen Foster and others watched as the Colorado Springs Police Department forced Sutton out. And on Sunday, with new locks on the doors, Dr. Ferris Thomas, a Sutton critic, led the service.

"We had an amazing weekend," says Foster.

Even after that weekend, a legal posting is taped to every door of the church stating that Sutton, his wife, and five deacons who had supported him since he was ostensibly fired by the congregation in October 2011, are barred from the premises. James Theus (pictured with Foster, above), another congregant who was deeply involved in the court case, gives a tour of the mess Sutton left behind. His desk looks ransacked and cluttered; on the floor of his office lies the church's computer and a hammer; Sutton apparently had hastily removed the computer's hard drive before leaving.

After taking stock of the scene, Theus turns to the future of the church, and what he and others have learned from the past.

"When we look at another pastor," says Theus, "we're going to look at the toe nails on his feet. And if one's broken, we're going to ask him about it."

— ***Chet Hardin***

# News

## Crossed out

### Religious groups put adoption services in limbo

**By Chet Hardin**

The charitable arm of the Catholic Church hasn't announced anything yet. But Mark Rohlena, president and CEO of Catholic Charities of Central Colorado, says his organization really could stop providing adoption services in the state.

*Catholic Charities would court trouble by refusing to work with gay parents.*

Last year, with church support, Republicans in the state Legislature waged an epic battle to kill a civil-unions bill. That bill actually had included language that would have allowed faith-based adoption agencies to exempt themselves from placing children with same-sex couples; it wasn't enough to appease conservatives.

This year, the Democrats entered the Legislature with a comfortable majority. And they wasted no time in introducing, shepherding and approving a similar bill — this time, without the exemption.

Catholic agencies have cried foul. Rohlena notes they could have their license pulled, or invite discrimination lawsuits, if they refuse to place with gay couples. Says Rohlena: "I don't think that in order for other adoption agencies to place in a civil union ... we have to be out of the arena."

"We don't think that it's a zero-sum game," adds Kathy Thayer, vice-president of Life Connections, the program that oversees Catholic Charities' adoption services. "But we may be forced to stop."

Pinpointing overall adoption numbers in Colorado is complicated: The state Department of Human Services, which oversees foster care and adoptions of kids in foster care, doesn't track private adoptions. But when asked how many adoptions they handle in El Paso County, Catholic Charities officials acknowledge that they average only two or three a year.

So, hand-wringing aside, would their absence even be felt? Rohlena says yes. He points out that his organization also contracts with the county to provide "relinquishment counseling," for parents who are considering voluntarily severing their parental rights. Last year, Catholic Charities counseled 59 people, many of whom chose to maintain those rights. The expertise that Catholic Charities brings to this counseling service, Rohlena says, is directly related to its experience facilitating adoptions.

Others envision ripple effects following a Catholic Charities pullout. For one thing, says Stephanie Roberts of Creative Adoptions, a private adoption service, people might get a skewed sense of their options if arguably the highest-profile adoption provider disappears.

"If they aren't going to be providing this service," she says, "I'm afraid that people are going to think that there's no services for them to tap into."

That's not the case, of course. Creative Adoptions, for one, is based in Wheat Ridge, but works across county lines. A handful of other private agencies work locally.

Whether they're affordable is another question. "There are private adoption agencies that are not faith-based, but they are significantly more expensive," says Debi Grebenik, executive director of Maple Star, a child-placement agency that contracts with the county to provide foster care. The faith-based agencies, she points out, are usually subsidized by their other functions.

While most of the half-dozen private adoption organizations we called didn't respond to interview requests, Bill Blacquiere, president and CEO of Bethany Christian Services, provided a statement saying his organization wouldn't "speculate on what may happen in the future." Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains has stated that the law won't impact their operations.

In similar situations in Illinois and Massachusetts, Catholic Charities has closed down its adoption services. But each local branch of Catholic Charities is largely autonomous, according to Rohlena, meaning that a local board will make the final decision on how to respond to the new law.

*— chet@csindy.com*

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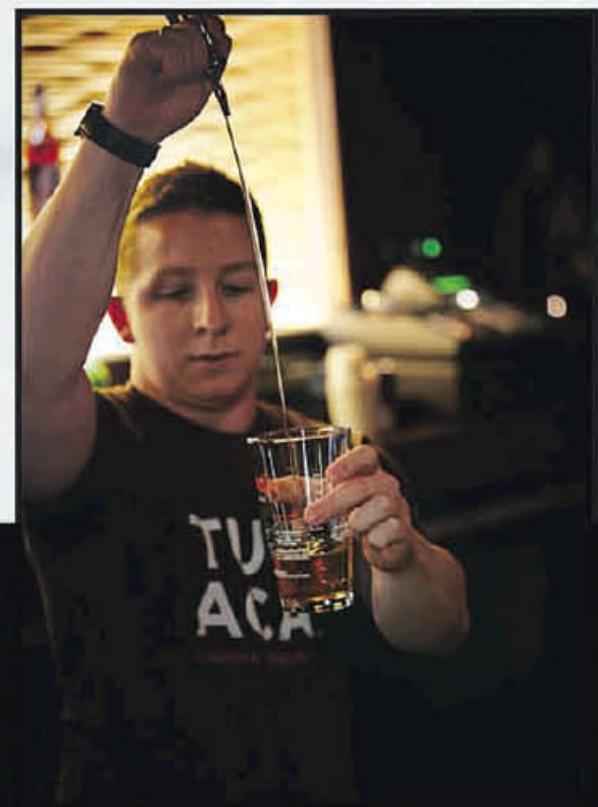


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# Backstage confidential

## Eight promoters discuss the ins and outs of the Colorado Springs music scene

**Story by Bill Forman  Photos by Brienne Boortz**

For every thousand kids who fantasize about growing up to be rock stars, you'd be lucky to find even one whose dream is to become a concert promoter.

True, concert industry revenues have slowly risen while record sales have fallen, but live music promoters continue to operate behind the scenes. With the noteworthy exception of the larger-than-life Bill Graham, none of them have come close to becoming household names. Even for touring musicians, the promoter's main claim to fame is being the person who pays you at the end of the night.

So why do it?

Well, there's money in it, theoretically, but that doesn't explain the vast number of promoters who work day-jobs and put shows together on their own time. More likely, it's the opportunity to be involved in something you love, namely music, and the satisfaction of knowing a show wouldn't have happened without you.

To understand how all that works on a local level, we put together a round-table discussion with some of Colorado Springs most accomplished promoters:

- Lauren Andrus (Modbo, Acacia Park Summer Concert Series)
- Brian Fortinberry (Front Range Barbeque)
- Steve Harris (MeadowGrass Music Festival)
- John Hooton (Stargazers Theatre and Event Center)
- Chris Huffine (Black Sheep)
- Andrea Nyquist (World Arena, Pikes Peak Center)
- Bryan Ostrow (Triple Nickel Tavern)
- Amy Whitesell (Blues Under the Bridge, A Music Company)

Topics during the hour-plus gathering ranged from below-the-radar house shows to festival and arena events; from manic booking agents to out-of-control "convenience" fees; from local bands jeopardizing their careers to drunken metal fans flipping over a van and setting it on fire.

It was that kind of conversation.

***Indy:* Let's begin by talking about some of the ways promoters get into the music business. Chris, didn't you start out doing house shows?**

**Huffine:** Yeah, I did house shows, worked on a few tours, and did club shows at Jack Quinn's and [Boulder's] H.W. Briggs. I also did some warehouse and gallery shows in Denver — I think it was around 2001 that I really got into that — on top of my house shows.

***Indy:* So how many house shows got closed down by the cops?**

**Huffine:** Uh, we never actually got shut down. We did have some problems at one point, because of the *Independent* actually ...

[Laughter.]

***Indy:* Which was way before my time, I should point out.**

**Huffine:** Way before your time, yeah. They did some little write-up on us and for some reason put our address in. And we never put our address on our fliers; people knew where it was, and word of mouth got people there. And so, of course, like clockwork at the next show, the cops came knocking on the door. They were like: "Hey, you guys, you gotta keep it quiet, and you can't charge money." But we had a box that said "DONATIONS," which skirted some sort of law.

And after that we did Operation Quiet Riot. One of my friends worked in a radio station that went out of business, so we took pretty much ALL the soundproofing and put it all in the basement. And after that, we were fine for about three or four years.

***Indy:* Anyone else start out with really small informal shows?**

**Ostrow:** That's kind of what I did, too. I had a house in Falcon back in '06, and we did these Falcon Fests where we had like 10 bands play. And we, like, flipped a friend's van over and lit it on fire. And somehow the cops came, I don't know how that happened. But that was when I first started really booking a lot of bands and stuff.

***Indy:* Once you flip a van over and set it on fire, it's hard to stop.**

**Ostrow:** Exactly, it's addicting.

*The Modbo's Lauren Andrus*

*The Black Sheep's Chris Huffine*

*Triple Nickel Tavern's Bryan Ostrow*

*World Arena's Andrea Nyquist*

***Indy:* Do they explode when they catch fire?**

**Ostrow:** Technically I think they probably do, but luckily it didn't this time. We weren't really in our right minds, we were hopped up on booze and metal.

***Indy:* Anyone else?**

**Whitesell:** Sure, yeah. I started with the Pikes Peak Blues Community in 2003. We started slow, and Brian [Fortinberry] was right there with us the whole time. And that was how I gained my experience booking acts, because we put together shows and brought in people. So that's how that started.

**Fortinberry:** The first band that wanted to play my place actually came to me. I wasn't even thinking about having music there. But Tim Zahn from Johnny and the Jukes showed up and kept pestering me over and over again. And finally I was like, "Let's do something on the patio." And so they showed up and it was an instant success. So we did Zydeco Patio every Sunday out there for like two or three years.

***Indy:* Lauren, you started as a professional musician, right?**

**Andrus:** Yeah, I'm a classical pianist and that's what I did for a living until recently. I played all my life, and I still teach. But I just started trying to play non-dead white guys in a band called Swelter and Burn, where I play piano and sing.

***Indy:* You're playing live white guys now?**

**Andrus:** Well, now I'm doing live white girls, which sounds like a different kind of show entirely. I'm still playing classically and accompanying where I can, but I just took a big-girl job, so I'm not trying to make a living as a pianist anymore. And it's a relief, frankly, because after you spend enough time practicing for someone's kid's Suzuki violin recital, you get kind of tired of playing piano for money.

***Indy:* [To Ostrow] You're also in a band ...**

**Ostrow:** Yeah, I'm in a band called Blighter, and then a two-piece zombie-thrash band called Night of the Living Shred. We play punk and metal and all that stuff.

[Note: Three other participants had amateur-musician beginnings, but we'll spare you the details.]

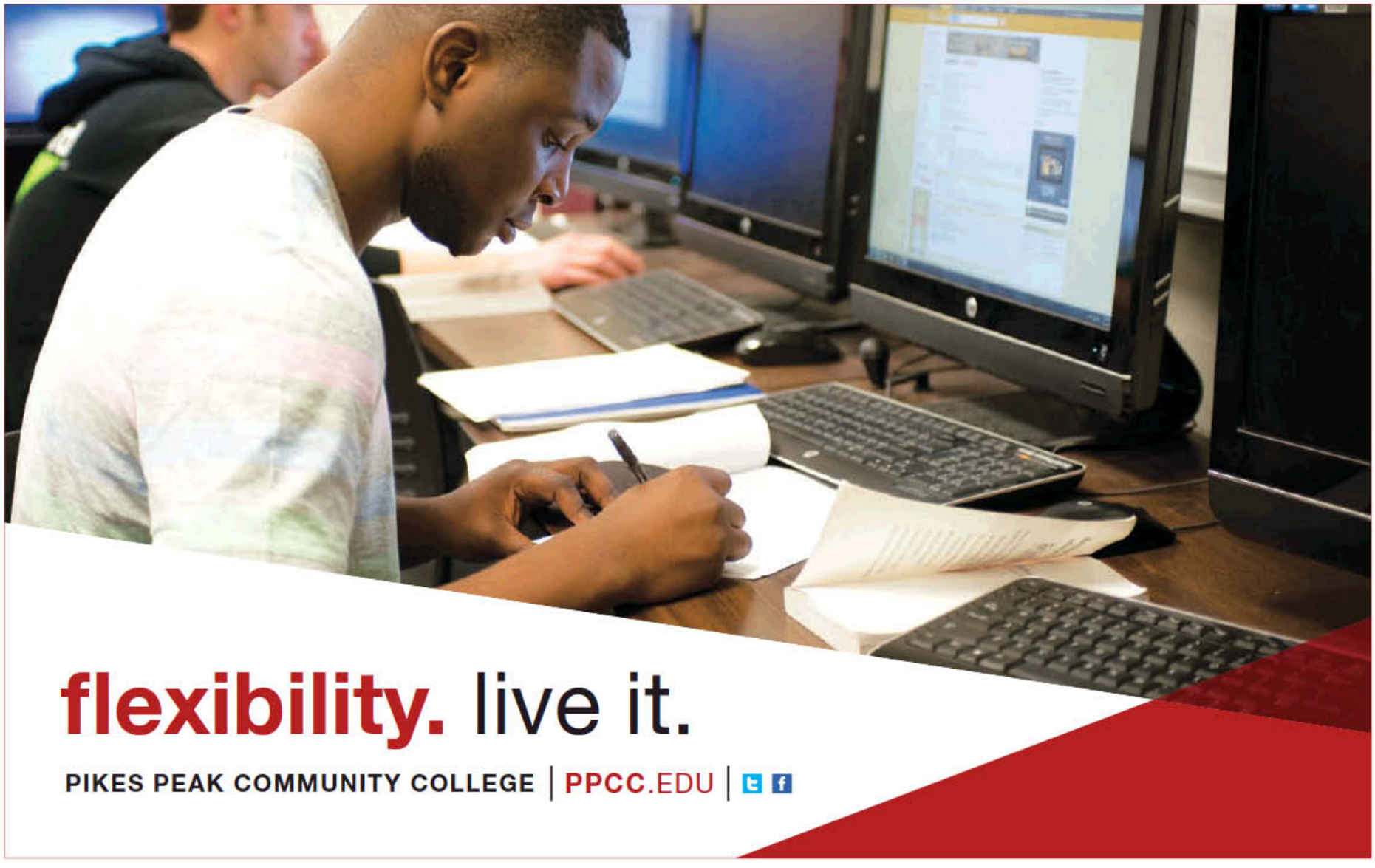
***Indy:* Steve and Amy, how terrifying is it to put on really ambitious festivals in a market that's obviously not huge compared to Denver? Any sleepless nights?**

**Harris:** Uh, you know, it's not *MY* money ... [Laughter.]

But I do book the talent for MeadowGrass, so I still am nervous about it. The festival turned its first profit last year, after three years of not making money, but that's what you expect with these things. We're getting up there, you know, and we have room to grow. I have 24 bands this year, and 11 of them are national touring acts, which is the highest number we've ever had.

***Indy:* Amy, what about yours?**

**Whitesell:** Well, Blues Under the Bridge is an interesting festival because of the location. The parts and pieces kind of



*MeadowGrass Festival's Steve Harris*

*Blues Under the Bridge's Amy Whitesell*

*Stargazers Theatre's John Hooton*

*Front Range Barbeque's Brian Fortinberry*

fall together, but it's like, you know, if you build it, will they come?

***Indy:* If they *hadn't* come, and you'd only gotten to do the festival for one year, what one act would you be most glad you had?**

**Whitesell:** That I actually booked? Koko Taylor.

***Indy:* Why is that?**

**Whitesell:** Well, first of all, she's not with us anymore. And I had the pleasure of just spending the evening before with her, and it was like spending an evening with my grandmother, OK?

And the next night, all of a sudden here's this grandma onstage and getting the whole audience going. That was great. You know, the trains passed by as she was singing a song about trains, and the audience goes nuts.

So I don't get to see a lot of the festival or interact with a lot of people because I'm busy, but that was very memorable.

***Indy:* Andrea, I'm guessing that with the World Arena in particular — and also the Pikes Peak Center — you folks can't book all the acts of that caliber directly. Are there certain go-to agents and promoters you continually go back to, and what goes into determining what artists get booked?**

**Nyquist:** Well, Dot Lischick, who's our general manager, typically books our acts for us. And she has worked really hard to build a relationship with different go-to promoters — and to keep those relationships really strong — so that they'll *bring* acts to Colorado Springs and not just bypass us and just go to Denver, for example. Because of course the population is bigger there, so it's an easier sell up there for a lot of them. So she works really hard on the relationship part of it.

***Indy:* John, what about Stargazers?**

**Hooton:** We've only worked with a couple of professional promoters. One is Pat McCullough out of Denver, who promotes Celtic music. And he's an amazing guy because he won't rest until every last ticket is sold. He'll literally come to town and ask, "How many tickets have we sold for Great Big Sea?" "Four-hundred ninety." "What's your capacity?" "Five hundred." "What about those last 10 tickets?"

He'll get on the phone and go through our lists, looking for O'Briens and O'Douls and anybody with an Irish name, and contact them to ask if they know a Celtic band's coming. It's the same thing with Amy, who's an amazing promoter because it's in her blood. She won't rest until every damn ticket is sold, which is what a good promoter does.

***Indy:* What's everyone's experience with specific genres, as far as which ones have and haven't worked for you? I know that when it comes to rap, Tech N9ne could probably play seven shows at the Black Sheep every six months and still sell out.**

**Huffine:** I think each genre does better depending on where it's booked. Like, we have a bunch of Americana-type shows booked right now, which I think is a really bad idea. You know, that's what we bought in Denver, but I don't think it does very good down here at *our* venue. Like somewhere in Manitou or even the Nickel, those kind of shows do great, but for whatever reason they don't do good with us.

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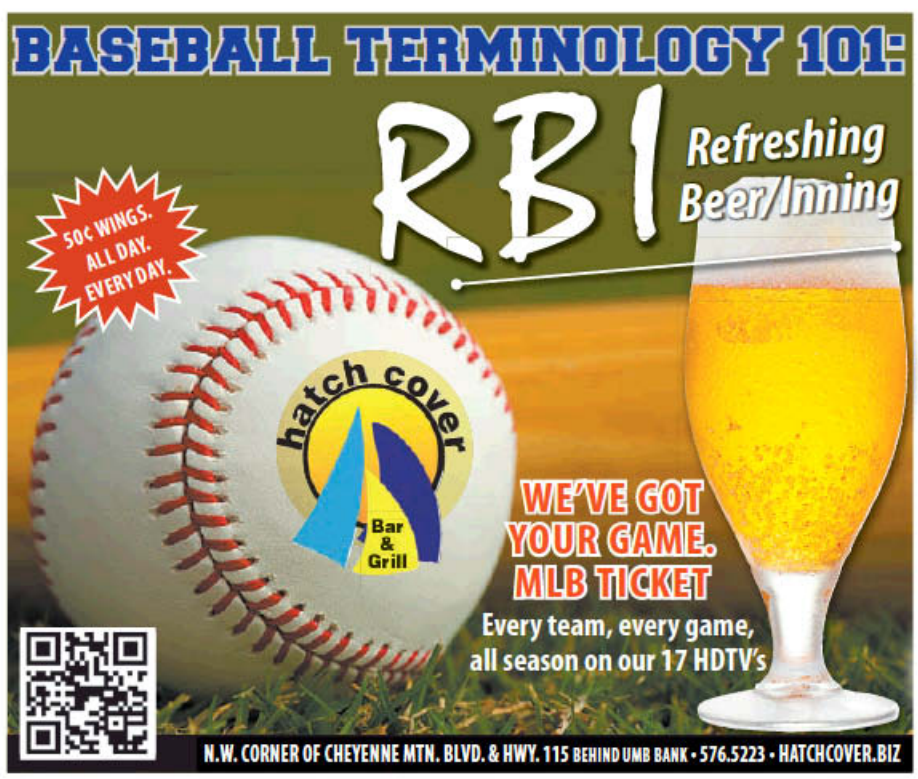
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Like, if we tried to do shows like John does, it would tank, it would be awful. We've *tried* to do older-crowd shows, but they don't like our club. It's not a place they want to go — they want to go to Stargazers.

***Indy:* They don't want to run into their kids there.**

**Huffine:** Yeah, we did — what was that guy's name? — some older guy who drew a totally, like, old kind of country crowd, and they hated it. There was nowhere to sit, they were complaining the whole night, you know?

**Harris:** Robert Earl Keen, maybe?

**Huffine:** I think that was it, actually. Yeah, you remember, you were probably there.

***Indy:* How do acts who've come here reflect trends in the industry as a whole? I'm thinking the Pikes Peak Center and World Arena might make good examples, since you tend to book mostly touring acts.**

**Nyquist:** I think it depends on the kind of audience you're going after. If you can get the right audience and the right fit with bands that are hot at the time — they're either rising or, you know, kind of descending from their peak — then you've got it. But you have to keep up with the business and know what's out there.

***Indy:* Lauren, you book the most avant-garde shows here. Paul Riola comes down from Denver and sometimes does some really weird stuff, as well as the Peak FreQuency folks.**

**Andrus:** Yeah, we've had to really find our niche. I guess one thing that's different with us is that we don't really make any money off the bands. I kind of don't consider myself a promoter, I consider myself a gallery owner who has music when it makes sense, and then we try to pay the bands as much as we can. We give them the same commission as we give our artists, which is also one of the highest in town. We give them 65 to 70 percent of the door. So because of that, they're incentivized to try to get people in.

***Indy:* So do people buy art when they show up for music shows?**

**Andrus:** It depends on the crowd. I'd say cabaret tends to sell some art some of the time. It just depends on how crowded it is. We're so small that sometimes it's so full you can't even *see* the art. But maybe it makes them want to come back later. So it creates a relationship where they may want to come back for an art opening. It doesn't hurt, that's for sure.

***Indy:* And then you do the Acacia Park concerts.**

**Andrus:** Yeah, that's a Downtown Partnership thing, and with Susan [Edmondson] ascending to the directorship there, things had been put on hold. It's still gonna happen, but normally it's booked by now. So in the next week it's giddyup-and-go and book bands and get it done.

We try to walk the line between bands that people like and are at least slightly family-friendly. Because the overall goal is to have families feel comfortable in Acacia Park. We want to reclaim Acacia and have it be the great heart of our city that we know it can be.

Os**trow:** So it's not just for Juggalos anymore.

**Andrus:** [Laughs.] Here's my favorite Acacia story: We're getting set up and it takes a few hours, you know. You've got the equipment out and we always have someone onstage watching the equipment, because there are a lot of people in the park who might like to take that equipment and sell it.

So I'm sitting on the edge of the stage untangling a cord or something, and I'm *me,* and I'm wearing a fucking cardigan. And this guy comes up to me and asks if I want to buy some meth. I mean, do people buy meth when they wear cardigans?

So that, to me, is like Acacia in a nutshell, and that's exactly what we don't want to happen. But we've seen the crowds grow and people do seem to feel safer. And it's all happening in the daylight, and we're getting more vendors down there, and it's becoming a better place to be, for sure.

***Indy:* Brian, can you talk about some of the genres that have worked for you?**

**Fortinberry:** Well, we started with Zydeco and then we worked our way into bluegrass, a lot of Americana, jam bands, and a lot of artists that can't really be put into a specific genre. We like to mix it up: We'll bring in a country act, a jazz act, pretty much everything but the heavy stuff. Since we're in a neighborhood, I have to be conscious of how loud we are. I don't want to piss off the neighbors.

**Hooton:** We're still a new enough venue that we try all sorts of different things, but the Americana stuff is particularly strong for us. We typically don't do rap, hip-hop or heavy metal, because the Black Sheep and Triple Nickel and Union Station and Zodiac pretty much have a lock on that. Also, we go for an older customer that won't tear the place up as much.

We do some blues, but Amy really is *the* promoter for blues in Colorado Springs. There's still so much room in this town for the music scene to grow that we rarely go after the same act. Maybe five years from now, as the economy grows, we'll be looking at each other as competition, but I think we're really all in this together.

**Huffine:** Yeah, I don't think there's much competition going on here.

**Ostrow:** I think it's all about community, and that's a good thing. I think we need *more* venues.

***Indy:* I want to ask about convenience fees, which have been a big issue since Pearl Jam, back in their heyday, took on Ticketmaster. A recent Frightened Rabbit show in Denver was $16.75, which is a decent price. But the service charge and convenience fee, whatever that is, added on $9.25 per ticket.**

**Whitesell:** That's ridiculous.

***Indy:* I know the Black Sheep has its No-Fee Fridays, where you can go to the box office and buy tickets with no additional service charge. How do others here deal with the whole service-charge thing?**

**Hooton:** I'm gonna jump in. We use a ticketing agency called Vendini, and we don't get a penny out of what they charge for service fees. When someone calls or shows up in person to buy a $20 ticket, there's a $1 service charge that goes to them when you punch it into the system. But it also tracks ZIP codes and gives us all sort of information, and the company provides our e-mail blast program.

It's all scaled depending on the ticket price, and I'm not sure of all the exact amounts. But even if it's a $60 ticket, it'd still only be $3.50. And then online, there's an additional $2 service fee per transaction.

**Ostrow:** I think that's part of the reason why people are not buying pre-sale tickets. You know, people are cheap — or at least with *me,* if I think a show is gonna sell out, I'm gonna buy it in advance and I'll deal with the ticket fee. But if I think there aren't gonna be very many people, I won't do it.

I mean, I went to the Black Sheep to see the Melvins, which is like a legendary band, and I thought it was gonna be packed. But there were like 40 or 50 people there. So I think that's why a lot of people in this town wait and buy at the door, because they don't wanna pay an extra six bucks if it's not gonna sell out.

***Indy:* I also wanted to ask about set times. It seems like some promoters and venues almost never start a show late, while others will wait for more than 12 people show up.**

**Ostrow:** Yeah, sometimes we do that. I mean, the Triple Nickel's a bar, so it's a late-night crowd that comes in there anyway. So if there's like five people there for the first band, then we can afford to push it back another 15 minutes in order to get an extra 10 or 20 people in. But most shows we usually try to start by 10, which is definitely late for a lot of people.

***Indy:* Especially since you'll usually have three bands.**

**Ostrow:** Exactly, yeah, we'll have three bands and we'll usually start at 10 and end it by 12:45. I understand why other venues go earlier, but at a bar, a lot of times people won't show until 10:30 or 11.

**Whitesell:** I had a band just this past Friday. And there were still just a few people in the club when they asked me, "What time should we start?" I said, "Well, contract says 9." "Do you really want us to start then?" "Uh-huh, yeah, and I want you to finish at midnight."

***Indy:* When it comes to local bands, there are some groups that will play as much as three times a week. So it's like, even their best friends can't go out that much, and fans figure they can just see them next week. To what degree does it hurt a band to do that?**

**Huffine:** I think that musicians who've been around a while know that they shouldn't really oversaturate. I've been saying this for years and years, nothing will kill your draw like oversaturating. If you play three times a week, you're splitting up your fan base between those shows instead of playing once every week or two and having everybody at the same show. And a lot of bands, they have it in their head that the more they play, the more people are gonna see them and keep showing up. We've had bands that used to draw 200 people and draw zero now because they just played too much.

***Indy:* And finally, I wanted to ask about how people — and particularly musicians — think of promoters. What's their biggest misconception about the business and the people who are in it?**

**Whitesell:** That we're rich.

**Ostrow:** Right, they think you're paid good money for it. I mean, there's definitely some scummy promoters out there that take money and stuff, but then there's a lot of good people out there, too. I'm a musician too, so I know good promoters and I know bad promoters. But most of us are in this business because we love music.

***— bill@csindy.com***

# Pitching promoters

While nearly all of the promoters who took part in this story will consider submissions from local musicians, the chances of actually getting a gig are much improved by following the guidelines each of them has set out below.

Note that there are also several fool-proof ways to NOT get booked. Examples include calling a promoter on the phone, sending a bunch of hype with nothing to back it up, and playing crap music.

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Submit: E-mail link to a page with music posted
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**Front Range Barbeque**
Contact: Brian Fortinberry, brianbbq@gmail.com
Submit: E-mail with links to web page/music/photos/etc.
Preferences: Bluegrass, newgrass, Americana, folk, funk, jam-band, alt-country; original acts only (no cover bands)
Follow up if no response? In a few weeks.
Additional info or comments: "I typically book about three months out, so get in touch early and plan ahead. Venue size is about 50-70. We don't typically do a cover charge. We are a restaurant, venue and bar. We do provide sound and sound tech."

**MeadowGrass Music Festival**
Contact: Steve Harris, steveharrisco@gmail.com
Online info: meadowgrass.org
Submit: "Prefer CDs to digital files, because I can also play them on my radio show [KRCC's *Grass Roots Revival*]."
Preferences: Original roots music of all types
Follow up if no response? "I try to respond to everyone but it's getting more and more difficult."

**The Modbo**
Contact: Lauren Andrus, themodbo@gmail.com
Submit: E-mail a link to your website
Preferences: Local and original music
Follow up if no response? Yes, after a week or so.

**Pikes Peak Center's Showcase at Studio Bee**
Contact: Dennis Lucero, dlucero@worldarena.com
Submit: mp3, bio, web page, contact info
Preferences: Colorado-based artists
Follow up if no response? No.

**Stargazers Theatre and Event Center**
Contact: John Hooton, stargazers2525@aol.com
Submit: Bio, photos, links to website, Facebook, EPK, YouTube, sound files, etc.
Follow up if no response? Welcome.

**Triple Nickel Tavern**
Contact: Bryan Ostrow, triplenickeltavern@gmail.com
Online info: triplenickeltavern.com/booking.html
Submit: Short bio, explanation of music, mp3 and/or link to band page or videos
Musical preferences: Metal, punk, folk, country, Americana; no cover bands
Follow up if no response? "Sometimes it's hard to see all the emails, so if you don't get a response in a week, one follow up will be fine."
Additional comments: "Keep on rockin' in the free world!!"

***— Bill Forman***

# EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE

## Developmental disabilities come to light, and enlighten, in the brand-new Achieve With Us Colorado Film Festival

Do you look away from somebody's disability, or do you stare right at it? What are the "rules"? The truth of the matter is, you shouldn't even notice a difference as something that hinders or separates. The Arc of the Pikes Peak Region and the Arc of Colorado are trying to make that point with the Achieve With Us Colorado Film Festival, happening Thursday at Stargazers Theatre & Event Center.

"When you run across a person with a disability, you don't know how to act or how to accept them," says Wilfred Romero, executive director of the Arc of the Pikes Peak Region. "Individuals would see a disability, and they do not see a capability."

A better attitude can come from the most unexpected places. Craig Severa, advocacy specialist for the local Arc, says he recently saw a child with Down syndrome wearing a T-shirt that read, "I'm really rocking this extra half chromosome."

Another challenge can come from film. A year ago, Severa says, he and Romero left a festival in Denver hosted by Sprout, a New York-based nonprofit that through film and art promotes social awareness of the misconceptions of those with disabilities. "We literally walked out, looked at each other and said at the same time, 'We gotta do this.'"

So they teamed up with Sprout, decided to use a similar format from its last two Denver fests, and got to work.

Choosing the films themselves proved a challenge. Severa and Romero did not just want to find a group of movies focused on, say, Down syndrome to make people cry. In the end, they found roughly a dozen short films, ranging from a few minutes to a half hour, from all over the world. Subjects include challenges faced by parents; people with disabilities struggling to fit in; and what it takes to be in a relationship as a person with a disability.

> **'I'm really rocking this extra half chromosome.'**

"They talk about being married, living together and being independent," Romero says, "and a lot of the time that is not really accepted."

All the films have actors or producers with disabilities. One from Australia, *Be My Brother*, showcases a few moments at a bus stop. What is remarkable is how the main character creates an exceptional human interaction with a stranger that his "normal" brother, sitting close by, could not.

Which just goes to show what Severa has been saying — there's nothing wrong with these men and women. If the brain is a supercomputer, he adds, you can be wired differently without being wired incorrectly.

***— Joshua Michael Torres***

**CAPSULE**

**Achieve With Us Colorado Film Festival**

**Thursday, March 28, 1 p.m., 3:30 p.m., and 7 p.m.**

**Stargazers Theatre & Event Center, 10 S. Parkside Drive**

**Free; for more information, call 471-4800 or visit thearcppr.org.**

## 27 WEDNESDAY

**film**

The *Families* Film Series at **Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center** (30 W. Dale St., csfineartscenter.org) continues at 7 tonight with its third of four installments, a screening of 1996's England-based, Oscar-nominated ***Secrets & Lies***. Tickets are $7 ($5 for members) to view the film and enjoy a discussion hosted by Robert von Dassanowsky, director of the film studies program at University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. Fitting into the broader *Families* theme, *Secrets & Lies* examines the story of an adopted black woman (Marianne Jean-Baptiste) seeking out her white birth mother (Brenda Blethyn). ***— MS***

## 28 THURSDAY

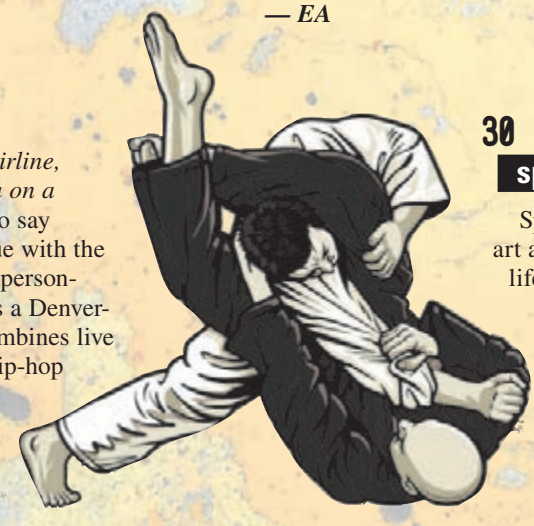
**music**

*They aren't an airline, but they'll take you on a ride!* Sorry, I had to say that. But to continue with the music-promoter impersonation, **Air Dubai** is a Denver-based band that combines live instruments with hip-hop and R&B vocals to produce a Parliament Funkadelic-like sound for the new millennium. Having performed in places such as Red Rocks and the Bluebird Theater, Air Dubai is in the midst of a national tour and at 8 tonight will stop at the **Black Sheep** (2106 E. Platte Ave., blacksheeprocks.com) for an all-ages, $10-to-$12 show, preceded by bands Drop Switch and Grits & Gravy. ***— MB***

## 29 FRIDAY

**art**

"What goes on in abstract art is the proclaiming of aesthetic principles," said 20th-century artist Hans Hofmann. "It is in our own time that we have become aware of pure aesthetic considerations. Art never can be imitation." Think about that — art not for documentation or symbolism, but for the pursuit of formal exploration (meaning compositional elements like color, line and shape). That's the impetus behind ***The Life Abstract***, opening from 5 to 8 tonight at **Cottonwood Center for the Arts** (427 E. Colorado Ave., cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com) and staying up through May 17. Don't expect facts or straight images, but something evasive and mutable. ***— EA***



## 30 SATURDAY

**sports**

Sport, martial art and way of life, Brazilian jiu jitsu (BJJ) is studied at more than 100 clubs in Colorado. Starting at 9 a.m. today, competitors of the sport will meet at **Coronado High School** (1590 W. Fillmore St., supercupbjj.blogspot.com) for the very first United States-hosted **Colorado BJJ Super Cup Tournament**. The practice is an offspring of the Japanese martial art form judo, and was made famous by the fighting family, the Gracies. A

## 4Play

Other options to get you excited about your week.

**Backup plan**
*5 Broken Cameras*, 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 2 at Penrose Library

**Before you know it**
*Success of the Springs III*, April 6 at Colorado College's Cornerstone Arts Center

**Potato pick**
*Masterpiece Classic: Mr. Selfridge* series premiere, 9 p.m., Sunday, March 31 on PBS

**Have you heard?**
Art made from falls (tinyurl.com/c32qwj9) and shadows (imgur.com/n8gn4)

Jim Van Hoy

grappling-oriented style, it focuses largely on the belief that, with the right techniques and leverage, a disadvantaged fighter might prove triumphant over an even stronger foe. Five dollars gets you in the door. **— *MG***

## 31 SUNDAY
### art

Were the **Commonwheel Artists Co-op** (102 Cañon Ave., Manitou Springs, commonwheel.com) to rewrite the Church of England's Book of Common Prayer, the funereal passage might go something like: "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, ***Clay to Treetop***." For it's the latter the Manitou Springs gallery is calling its new exhibition of nature-inspired works by Sherry Brand, Yuko Westover and others. Basket-style flower vases; lampshades spraying flower-shaped lighting; and subtly shaded shots from the Colorado Springs Creative Photography Group are all grouped together in an artistic homage to the elements. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., the show runs through April 15. **— *BC***

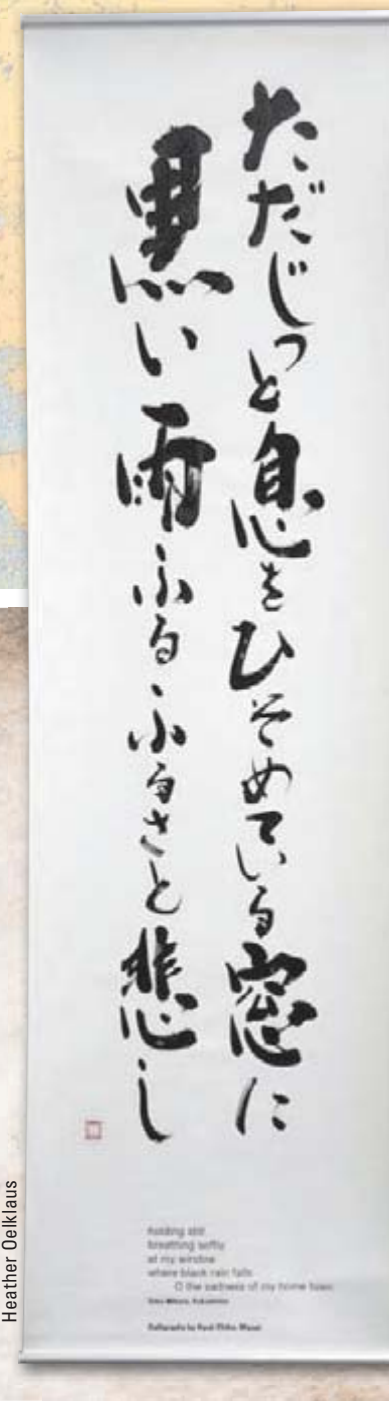
## 1 MONDAY
### comedy

Stop me if you've heard this one: An English teacher from Denver moonlights as a comedian. He's invited to try out for a nationally televised comedy contest and is so good, he's then invited to perform at the celebrated Great American Comedy Festival in 2009. Waiting for the punch line? There isn't any; this is the story of **Chris Voth**, who will be performing tonight at **Stargazers Theatre & Event Center** (10 S. Parkside Drive, stargazerstheatre.com) in a performance benefiting Urban Peak and honoring City Councilor Jan Martin. Doors open at 6:30, and tickets are $25. **— *MB***

## 2 TUESDAY
### music

Contrary to popular opinion, ICP doesn't always stand for Insane Clown Posse; it's also the acronym for **Instant Composers Pool Orchestra**. Bereft of facepaint and horror-core tendencies, this particular ICP is an improvisational jazz group based in Amsterdam and led by drummer Han Bennink, whose jaw-dropping talents have fueled collaborations with artists ranging from avant-noisemaker Peter Brötzmann to the more bebop-inclined jazz legend Eric Dolphy. A typical ICP Orchestra composition, assuming there is such a thing, covers a similarly broad spectrum, from beautifully composed jazz arrangements to relatively anarchist free-for-alls. Tonight, its free Peak FreQuency-sponsored concert begins at 7:30 in **UCCS' Berger Hall** (1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., uccs.edu/~peakfreq) with a brief opening set by the university's Creative Music Honors Ensemble. **— *BF***

***Contributors: Edie Adelstein, Miguel Bustamante, Bryce Crawford, Bill Forman, Matthew Grieson and Matthew Schniper.***



Heather Oelklaus

# AFTERSHOCK

## Coming to terms with national disaster through visual art and poetry

Following the earthquake and tsunami that ravaged the Tohoku region of Japan in 2011, Joan Ericson of Colorado College found the survivors of the disaster doing something extraordinary: writing poems.

Ericson, a professor of Japanese literature, language and culture, was in Kyoto on sabbatical at the time of the disaster. She wanted to do more than just contribute to the Japanese Red Cross, and when Isao Tsujimoto, director of the Studio for Cultural Exchange in Japan, asked her to help translate a collection of poems written by citizens, she agreed.

Some of the writers "got out with their life and nothing else," Ericson says. "And now they are sitting in the school gymnasium with nothing. And they are writing poetry."

The poems later became part of a traveling exhibit, *Voices from Japan: Perspectives on Disaster and Hope*, now on display at CC's I.D.E.A. Space. The collection has already been shown in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Japan.

Central to it are 31 *tanka*, or short poems (100 are translated in the exhibit publication). Composed of five lines, *tanka* have 31 syllables and tend to express deep emotions of love, loss and grief.

Because of their brevity, the poems usually focus on one image; in one case, that of the bereaved parent who returns to the school of his deceased child and answers for the child during roll call.

The exhibit also includes a film about the aftermath by Joe Krakora, photographs by Magdalena Solé, calligraphy by Kanji Chiba, and photo collages by Saori and Yoshihito Sasaguchi. Ericson, who oversaw this particular exhibit, has added a video of CC students performing dance choreographed by artist-in-residence Patrizia Herminjard, and artwork and poetry created by survivors of a different type of disaster — the Waldo Canyon Fire.

***— Darcie Mankell***

**CAPSULE**

**"Sounds of *Voices from Japan*": Music Concert**
**Saturday, March 30, 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 31 at 3 p.m.**
**CC's Packard Hall, 5 W. Cache la Poudre St.**
**Free; for more, visit coloradocollege.edu.**

**CAPSULE**

***Voices from Japan: Perspectives on Disaster and Hope*, through April 6**
**"*Voices from Japan* Translated: A Panel Discussion," Wednesday, March 27, 4 p.m.**
**"Literature in Times of Disaster: A Panel Discussion," Thursday, March 28, 4 p.m.**
**"Reconstruction of the Tohoku Region: Screening of *Can You See Our Lights? First Festival after the Tsunami* and *Fukushima Hula Girls*," Saturday, March 30, 4 p.m.**
**All events held at CC's Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave.**
**Free; for more, visit coloradocollege.edu.**

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# Appetite

## Scaled up

### Woodland Park's Dog House does a little, right

**By Bryce Crawford**

In my head, the perfect local, fast-casual restaurant offers three or four entrées and spends the rest of its time testing, fixing and bettering the ingredients in each dish. It obsesses over the little stuff until that hot thing in your hand changes your day with a taste. I don't want selection, I just want interesting, consistently executed expertise.

Bradley Flora

*The Chicago dog requires two hands and a wide mouth to take all its goodness in with one bite.*

Casey's Dog House Grill isn't exactly that restaurant. For instance, it should probably be a food truck parked outside the late-night dens of downtown Colorado Springs, instead of the occupant of a table-dwarfing dining room in Woodland Park. That becomes even clearer considering the menu of cafeteria staples, like sliders and hot dogs.

But there's more heart behind these basics than I've seen in some fine-dining dishes. Don Hagan at Casey's keeps it small and tight, and turns the ordinary into a little something special. That's not to say it's a flawless mountaintop mecca, but you could do a lot worse than spend a night in the Dog House.

Take the french fries: fat, golden, hand-cut sticks that taste like a highlight reel from the day when peeled potatoes, hot oil and salt first met in unadulterated glory. These yield to bites with a musical, layered crunch reminiscent of biting through fresh pastry. Even burned, they're hard not to eat compulsively.

Elsewhere, the restaurant tends to over-rely on a smoky paprika mayonnaise called Doghouse Sauce. For instance, the portobello slider ($6.75) is one of the most delicious items on the menu, the fungus marinated and grilled into something like pure *umami*, but it's the only thing between the bread, other than the sauce. Give me a garlicky pesto, give me red onions and arugula, but just give me something.

The sauce shows up again on the Triple Pork Sliders ($6.50), where a chorizo patty and fat, curling bacon play nice with spinach and tomatoes — I didn't notice any ground pork — and again on the Veggie Wrap ($5.99). The latter is a seemingly too-simple affair of vegetables, tortilla and smoky, orange sauce, but *what* vegetables: fat hunks of onions, red bell-peppers, spinach, basil, zucchini and those blessed chunks of portobello did as good a job carrying an entrée as you're going to see.

At least, that was my thought until I bit into the similarly styled Veggie Quesadilla ($5.99). This one adds grilled onions and salty melted cheese to a large, buttery tortilla that's directly responsible for making me rethink the impossibility of vegetarianism. If the restaurant would throw some of those onions on the beef sliders ($6.99), and maybe a pickle or two, it would have a powerhouse, instead of a pretty good meat-and-bread thing.

Probably overpriced, the two-hander Chicago dog ($7.49) still packs an impressive wallop, all dripping meat-juices and clean flavors, on a bed of neon-green relish, onions, pickles and peppers. The side of baked beans ($1.89) is mushy, homemade and heavenly. And the "homemade apple pie" ($3.50) is more like the most incredible piece of fried dough, packed with lava-hot-and-gooey cinnamon apples, you've ever eaten.

I guess the definitely overpriced chicken wings ($12.99) aren't anything special, and the pickle spears are pretty raggedy, but Hagan's green chili ($3.99) is the real deal. I prefer tender strands of shredded pork to the ground stuff found here, but otherwise his green, lightly sweet little fruits build in intensity like a professional symphony.

All told, it's like the restaurant spent time perfecting something little, and ended up with something big.

**CAPSULE**

**Casey's Dog House Grill**

**108 E. Midland Ave., Woodland Park, 687-9649**

**Monday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

*— bryce@csindy.com*

# SIDE Dish

Culinary crumbs & gastronomic gossip

## Expanded vision

Gotta Love It! Market, which expanded to 1625 W. Uintah St., Suite K, last year and added the Vision Foods co-pack facility, is now creating yet another business arm, this one called **Freedom Foods Co-op** (314-8714). Co-organizer Jerry Downing says it will encompass all the participating business entities by creating a new retail market front out of which each will sell.

"It's the synergy of all to build a local, sustainable food system in Colorado Springs," he says. "... We'll have other local manufacturers to fill the voids, like breads, pastas, raw foods."

Downing clarifies that not all products are made with local ingredients — the focus more so set on them being locally *manufactured*. He also discusses a future plan to construct a Meals On Wheels-like home delivery program that would incorporate local dairy producers and growers.

A newly cut doorway into adjacent Suite J, formerly occupied by Tabor Mountain Bakehouse (which recently moved to 1015 W. Colorado Ave.), will now lead into **Miss Ami's Kitchen** (missamiskitchen.com). That's another gluten-free bakery we told you about here this past January. Its owner, Ami Heath, will share the space with other allergy-sensitive producers while continuing to build on her distribution of cheesecakes and other sweets to local restaurants.

Heath has planned an opening celebration for 3 to 7 p.m., Friday, March 29, and Downing aims to have the market open within days of that.

## À la carte

• Green Mountain Falls' former Silver Tongue Devil Saloon has turned into the **Blue Moose Tavern** (10530 Ute Pass Ave., 418-3384) under new owner Karla Penner, who notes reducing the former menu of some 50-ish plates down to "around 20 fantastic items." Those now include the Mountain Man Pizza featuring homemade elk sausage, a green chile chipotle buffalo brat, and Green Mountain Moose Balls.

• **Paradox Beer Company** (106 E. Village Terrace, #100, Woodland Park, paradoxbeercompany.com) premiered a new tasting room last week, which will be open from 4 to 9 p.m., Thursdays through Saturdays.

• **Canyon Coffee & Cafe** (1791 S. Eighth St., Unit H, canyon-coffee.com) recently purchased the Black Bear Coffee and Tea Lodge (6550 S. Academy Blvd.), which will now also be called Canyon Coffee & Cafe. Washington-based Dillanos Coffee Roasters products will now be served there as well, and the food menu has been changed to reflect similar offerings as the Eighth Street store.

• **Cowboy Espresso Cafe**, at 105 S. Santa Fe Ave. in Fountain, has gone out of business as of March 11.

***— Matthew Schniper***


# APPETIZERS

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719-576-5223
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**The Rabbit Hole**
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719-203-5072
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25 W. Cimarron St.
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thewarehouserestaurant.com
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719-635-0200
buffalogalsgrilling.com
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**BISTRO**

**Bon Ton's Café**
2601 W. Colo Ave.
634-1007
**Bon Ton's Café is where the locals eat** located in the heart of Old Colorado City! Serving a full brunch menu: including old fashioned breakfasts, southwest specialties and delicious desserts! Don't forget to enjoy a mimosa or Bloody Mary as we like to think we are your weekend brunch vacation.

**Ritz Grill**
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520-0123
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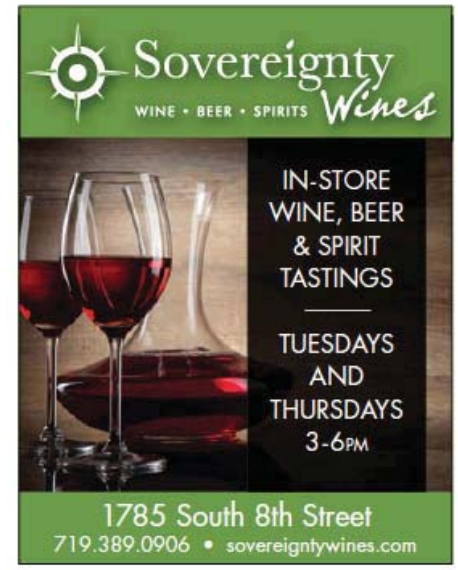
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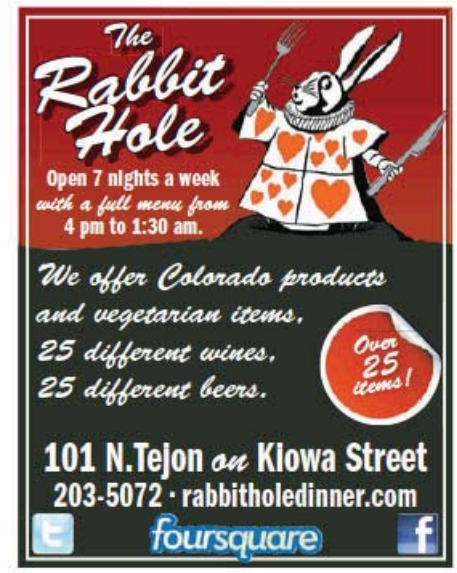

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## Firehouse Subs

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By pure coincidence, days after we first saw the inside of a Firehouse restaurant we received notice that the national chain was donating $20,000 worth of brush shirts used to fight wildfires to the Colorado Springs Fire Department. So it's with recognition of that gift that we say that Firehouse, which just added a second location on Austin Bluffs Parkway, still may not be for everybody.

For instance, though boasting one of those cool, touch-screen Coke fountains, the dining room (full of appealing fire murals, equipment and safety tips) was trashed when we walked in. Then we were rushed through our order, each of our words quickly stepped on by the next question. Finally, neither the salt-bombed **Smokehouse Beef & Cheddar Brisket** ($5.99/medium), nor the **New York Steamer** ($5.89) of brisket, pastrami and provolone came off like anything other than cheap and one-dimensional; though the latter, laced with mustard and Italian dressing, held up better between the two. — ***Bryce Crawford***

## New Belgium Brewing

*500 Linden St., Fort Collins, 970/221-0524, newbelgium.com*

Given that India Pale Ale's history dates back to British colonization, you have to cringe at otherwise well-intentioned assertions that the IPA style is aggressively marching to world domination. But there's no denying its growing popularity, with impassioned "hop heads" leading the way. (It's a story fit for Michael Pollan's *The Botany of Desire*, penned partly on the topic of certain plants making *us* do *their* bidding.)

New Belgium just added **Rampant IPA** (around $9/six-pack; $4.50/22-ounce bomber), to its year-round Explore series that already includes the lower-ABV Ranger IPA and Trappist yeast-amped Belgo IPA. (The Lips of Faith series also includes a 9-percent ABV Super IPA.) Rampant, an imperial, weighs in at 8.5 percent with Mosiac and Calypso hops adding noticeable apricot and peach aromas to the citric notes of the widely used Centennial hops. It's simply fantastic, not overly bitter, and another rewarding study into hop profiles. — ***Matthew Schniper***

## Orchard Ovens Bakery

*3 E. Bijou St., 685-9595, orchardovensbakery.com*

Compared to the sledgehammer of sugar and shortening that is cake — not to mention its overrepresented and often disappointing "cup" cousin — pie is a quiet, subtle thing. It's an easy, unsolved algebra problem, instead of a shouted answer to one-plus-one. Pie is a continuation of the dinner conversation, rather than a "Dessert's here!" confabulation killer.

It's also delicious in dark lime-green, as we found out while tasting the dyed-for-St. Patrick's Day **Key lime pie** ($15) at Orchard Ovens, the bakery that just moved from Manitou's BAC to downtown. But it's not the color that's the secret, because it's yellow-green, otherwise: It's the pulp. It's the three whole, puréed Key limes leaving bitter, sour exclamation points among the velvety gelatin, making it equally impossible for this story to be cloying or dull. A hint of sour cream furthers the goal, while an eighth-of-an-inch of graham-cracker crust, crowned with homemade whipped cream, finishes the job. — ***Bryce Crawford***

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# Film

## A real American zero

***G.I. Joe: Retaliation*** (PG-13)

**By MaryAnn Johanson**

You get the G.I. Joes for Christmas. Hooray! You make them cross the demilitarized zone near the china cabinet to rescue Barbie. *Pawft pawft pawft* — enemy fire. *Wheeeeeee boom barrrrummmmmmph* — you throw rocket grenades at the bad guys. You win!

New toys! Ninja Joes! You infiltrate Pakistan, right over that ridge in the backyard, and steal back the nuclear weapons from the bad guys. *Rata tata tata tata tat* — machine gun fire. *Bang pow wham whoof* — you make the Joes punch the terrorists. You win!

***It's a firefight all right. No toyin' around. But* G.I. Joe: Retaliation *shoots blanks the whole time.***

It's your birthday, and you get the G.I. Joe airboats. New toys! You make the Joes chase the bad guys across the puddle in that pothole in the street. Oh no! You knock over the juice boxes on the curb: Cobra Commander just destroyed London! You win this time, Cobra Commander!

"Get me the G.I. Joes," you say, but you're totally doing the voice of the President of the United States ...

Forgive me. I'm making *G.I. Joe: Retaliation* sound like a helluva lot more fun than it is.

It's nowhere near this coherent, either. Probably the most coherent moment, in fact, is when Jonathan Pryce, as the president, is actually required to say, without snickering, "Get me the G.I. Joes."

We talk about "live-action cartoons," but perhaps no movie has ever come nearer to such a state than *Retaliation*. Because no one else laughs, either, when Pryce says that. Although, to be fair, this is a world in which everyone lives in fear of supervillain Cobra Commander (Luke Bracey) — and yet when the president later announces that his new elite fighting force (replacing the Joes, who are on the outs) is called Cobra, no one finds this suspicious. How did *no one* catch on that the "President" is actually another dude *entirely* who's secretly wearing a nanostuff Jonathan Pryce disguise and is working with Cobra Commander to try to take over the world?

Again, I'm making this sound far more entertaining and logically consistent than it is.

*Retaliation* purports to have been "written," but that seems unlikely. It's almost as if no one, up to and including the cast, actually read the "script" before they started shooting, or even while they were shooting. In one bit, nominal hero Dwayne Johnson, aka the Rock, intones ominously that there's only one person whom he and the other two remaining Joes (D.J. Cotrona and Adrianne Palicki) can trust, now that the Joes as a fighting force have been betrayed and wiped out, which could only have been ordered at the highest level. Half an hour later in the film, the Rock is mumbling portentously about the "one person I trust," and it's someone else entirely. (One of them turns out to be Bruce Willis, who looks pained to be here. As well he should.)

It occurs to me that all this "someone else entirely" stuff infecting the film may be evidence of attempts at mass exodus on the part of the cast, who when they finally did read the script, saw fit to make a quick escape. It could explain why Channing Tatum makes an early exit from the film ... in which case we must be thankful for small favors.

*Retaliation* may be powerfully stupid, but it could have been worse: Tatum could have been in *all* of it.

***— scene@csindy.com***

### RatingsWrapUp

| | Indy | Hollywood Reporter | Rotten Tomatoes | Variety |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| G.I. Joe: Retaliation (PG-13) | Lame | NOT REVIEWED | Enjoy | NOT REVIEWED |
| The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG-13) | Wait for DVD | Wait for DVD | Wait for DVD | Brilliant |
| Olympus Has Fallen (R) | Enjoy | NOT REVIEWED | NOT REVIEWED | NOT REVIEWED |
| On the Road (R) | Lame | Wait for DVD | Wait for DVD | Wait for DVD |
| Stoker (R) | Wait for DVD | Enjoy | Enjoy | Brilliant |

KEY: Brilliant · Enjoy · Wait for DVD · Lame

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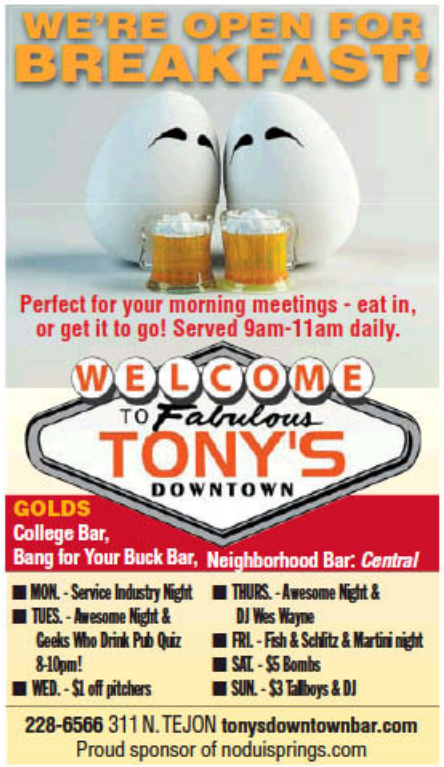
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# Film

## Bludgeoning the Beats

***On the Road*** (R)

**By MaryAnn Johanson**

If you didn't know that Jack Kerouac's novel *On the Road* was a seminal influence on postwar America, that it helped define a generation and even determined the course of significant aspects of modern pop culture, you would never, ever guess it from this lifeless, soulless, pointless adaptation.

*This batch of filmmakers takes a sacred text and drives it over a cliff. Just ... sad.*

Director Walter Salles and screenwriter Jose Rivera bizarrely strip all cultural and historical context from a tale that desperately needs it today, 65 years after it is set. And without that, their film is only an assemblage of manboy exploits as self-indulgent layabouts smoke pot, listen to jazz, and write poetry.

Just what the hell is wannabe writer Sal Paradise (Sam Riley) rebelling against? In what way is the world failing to meet his expectations?

What is it about his new friend Dean Moriarty (Garrett Hedlund) that makes him, in Sal's eyes, "holy"? We haven't got a clue.

Sal and Dean here are no different than Bill and Ted, Wayne and Garth, or Harold and Kumar, except perhaps for their gorgeous period setting. (At least the film looks amazing, even if the content's a shame.) If we're meant to take it that Kerouac set the stage for stoner bromances, no thank you.

Sal and Dean talk about how they might get around to talking about stuff without ever actually getting around to saying anything of substance. In fact, perhaps the only moment consisting of something close to an authentic philosophical take on the world, as crass as it may be, comes from Amy Adams' kooky rural Louisiana housewife, who explains to Elisabeth Moss and Kristen Stewart, all ill-treated toys of the men here, that there's a certain necessity in giving out blow jobs.

Of course, that moment is the only conversation among women at all in the film, as if in Sal's world, women exist only in relation to men, and only congregate among themselves to discuss men. I'd love to be able to think that Salles is making some sort of postmodern criticism of Kerouac, that the women he's all but ignoring are living in the real world that the men perhaps think they're above, but there's no evidence for that.

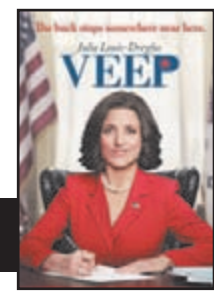
I can't even see that there's a joke in the fact that the women are, quite literally, scrubbing floors while they have this conversation. If the moment isn't an accident, it's an opportunity that's thrown away as quickly as it is broached.

As, indeed, the rest of the film seems to be. The narrative is nothing but Sal chasing Dean around the country doing odds jobs and being miserable. Sometimes Sal is driven to scribble things on paper, once so inspired that he runs out of paper and resorts to using newspaper, but what he's writing is left a mystery. (The suggestion is that he's writing the very story we see on screen, but again we get no indication as to why it's worth telling.) It's as if the entire film is made up of all the bits in between the interesting bits, which have been cut out. It's a shameful waste of a fantastic cast, which also features Kirsten Dunst, Viggo Mortensen, Steve Buscemi and Alice Braga.

Why did this story hit like a ton of cultural bricks in the 1950s? Why is it still important today? This *On the Road* has no insight and no hindsight.

***— scene@csindy.com***

## CineFiles



***This Must Be the Place*** (R)

*Anchor Bay Home Entertainment*

*This Must Be the Place*, at first glance, had all the makings of a terrible joke; a movie that would go down in cinema history as a one-note misfire that was practically *MST3K*-ready. The premise is basically this: An effeminate Robert Smith (of proto-Goth band The Cure) clone comes out of retirement to kill Nazi war criminals. And who is playing the Smith-riff? Why none other than notorious tough-guy actor Sean Penn. I was prepared to just mock this 2011 release to no end. But, about 10 minutes in, I wasn't laughing — I was transfixed. Penn becomes this aging Goth rocker so completely, so internally, that you forget you're even watching an actor. And, as ludicrous as the Nazi war criminal angle is ... it's actually heart-breaking, yet somehow life-affirming. This movie is so outside the norm of anything I've seen before, making it all the more amazingly original and a true must-see. ***— Louis Fowler***

***Veep*** (NR)

*HBO Studios*

As a fan of Brit writer-producer Armando Iannucci's TV work, especially his 2009 political satire *In the Loop*, I jumped headfirst into the filmmaker's HBO adventure, *Veep*, starring the brilliant Julia Louis-Dreyfuss as Selina Meyer, the VP of the United States. Co-starring *Arrested Development*'s Tony Hale and *In the Loop* standout Anna Chlumsky, *Veep*, on paper, seemed like catnip for lovers of smart TV. On first viewing, however, the show's bitter cynicism outweighed its already lightweight political incisiveness. A second look is benefitted by lowered expectations; fitting for a show so convinced that a center-left America has spent the last few years stuck in a post-2008 depressive rut. *Veep*'s debut season ended stronger than some may remember, making a strong case for its continued life with barbed critiques and (brief) windows into its characters' lives. ***— Justin Strout***

***Eaters*** (NR)

*Entertainment One*

Three words no one ever wants to see at the start of a movie: Uwe Boll Presents. Boll, for those who aren't in the know, is widely regarded as one of the worst filmmakers currently working, a new Ed Wood or tax-shelter artist. (His 2005 *Alone in the Dark* actually pulls a 1 percent rating on Rotten Tomatoes' "Tomatometer.") So whenever he presents something ... let's just say I'm not expecting much. And, with *Eaters*, that's a pretty good thing. While nowhere near as bad as Boll's own outings, this Italian pickup has a great premise: In the outbreak of a plague that has turned most of the world into zombies, a trio of survivors wander the wasteland, encountering numerous post-apocalyptic weirdos. This is all well and good, but in the hands of directors Marco Ristori and Luca Boni, it's mostly boring and tries way too hard to be different, to the point of inane pretension. ***— Louis Fowler***

# Showbiz kid

## Carly Ritter taps into her family traditions

**By Tom Lanham**

Talent, it seems, often skips a generation. Or at least that's the theory of Carly Ritter, who — like her grandfather, bass-voiced C&W legend Tex Ritter — was born with a gift for singing and songwriting.

*'I couldn't have been luckier than to have a dad like that.'*

It just took her a little while to discover it: Ritter recently turned 31, and her eponymous debut disc, which will finally be coming out on Vanguard this August, is filled with breezy Lulu-laced, '60s-style tracks like "It Is Love" and the kickoff single, "It Don't Come Easy."

Having dabbled in acting, she also wouldn't mind having the comedic timing of her late father, actor John Ritter. "But I didn't get that gift from my family," she says with a sigh. "I think it might've missed me somehow."

The photogenic singer has already appeared in two shorts, *Slice* and *Monsieur Balloons*, mainly just helping out some film-director friends, she swears. But it's also an extension of growing up in an especially animated household.

"I couldn't have been luckier than to have a dad like that," she recalls. "His favorite thing was to make people laugh, so he was always doing different characters around the house, and always trying stuff out on his kids, and we loved it. But then he also had a very deep side — he had that artist's eye, that way of really observing the world and its beauty and being curious and always learning. And those are things that definitely helped me as a human being and, I hope, as an artist too."

Ritter told his kids they didn't have to go into show business if they weren't feeling it. Any career choice that wasn't shady or life-threatening was fine with him, says his offspring, who tried administrative work at first, considered nursing, then wound up studying religion at University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Initially, she was thinking philosophy, but then she stumbled upon two life-changing religious courses called "Love — The Concept and Practice" and "Religious Responses to Suffering and Death."

"I'm 90 percent of the time thinking about love and death anyway," says Ritter, "so by the time I had to declare a major, I'd already taken a bunch of those classes."

She went on to get her degree from Vassar — but not before she delved deeply into traditional English folk in Scotland, then traced it all the way up to American folk by combing the Vassar music library. She picked up a guitar, began singing, and soon had demos she felt were worthy of sending to some old high school chums, Joachim Cooder and his missus Juliette Commagere, musicians who'd launched a production duo on the side.

Ritter was toying with a classic country vibe at first, but the team — with Joachim's legendary father Ry Cooder sitting in on guitar — helped guide her toward a more comfortable sound reminiscent of Jackie DeShannon and Lee Hazlewood.

"I'm still trying to wrap my brain around how all this happened," Ritter marvels at her own good fortune. "But I was really fortunate that it all came together, because I would've had to go back to — and I *still* might have to go back to — whatever job I needed to do. But for right now, to have this creative chapter? Hey, I'll be soaking it up, every moment, for however long it lasts." She pauses before adding, "I think my dad would be proud."

*— scene@csindy.com*

**CAPSULE**

**Carly Ritter, with Matt Costa**

**Tuesday, April 2, 8 p.m.**

**Bluebird Theater, 3317 E. Colfax Ave., Denver**

**Tickets: $16/adv, $20/door, 16-over, bluebirdtheater.net, 303/377-1666.**

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# REVERB

BY BILL FORMAN

For readers of this column who are musicians but don't have massive trust funds, we'll let you in on a little secret: The **Western States Arts Federation** is giving out some serious tour support grants, and you've got from this Thursday, March 28, through April 13 to apply for one.

*Nina Storey: The acclaimed singer-songwriter will headline a free show at UCCS Tuesday.*

The nonprofit arts group's **Independent Music on Tour (IMTour)** program awards grants exclusively to Front Range musicians of the indie variety. Last year's inaugural recipients were the Springs' own **Changing Colors** plus five Denver artists: political rapper **Mane Rok**, avant-cellist **Ian Cooke**, and indie-pop bands **Paper Bird, Photo Atlas** and **Snake Rattle Rattle Snake**.

The fact that all these musicians are really good speaks not only to the quality of the applicants, but also the promoters and agents judging the competition, who are clearly more discerning than whoever keeps leaving my favorite artists out of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

The fledgling program was sufficiently far under the radar last year that applicants numbered just more than 60. But given that award recipients get the services of an agent and a publicist — as well as something called money — for the length of a full tour, don't expect it to be a secret for long. IMTour doesn't publicize the actual amount of money involved, but based on what I was able to glean from talking to Changing Colors' **Conor Bourgal**, I can vouch for it being more than a lot of indie bands will earn during their entire lifespan.

**'You didn't expect us to just give away money, did you?'**

That said, the competition has a number of stringent eligibility rules, including a requirement that musicians have toured to two or more locations a minimum of 50 miles from home in the past 12 to 18 months. (So line up those Denver pizza parlor gigs quick.) As IMTour organizers put it, "You didn't expect us to just give away money, did you?"

You can find everything else you need to know, along with a free online application, at imtour.org.

Meanwhile, for the less musically proficient among us, there's still good news this week. This coming Tuesday, **Nina Storey** will be headlining a free show at **UCCS' University Center**.

Prior to moving to L.A., Storey received Vocalist and Songwriter of the Year awards from both *Westword* and *5280 Magazine*, thanks to a sultry musical style that would fit nicely on a bill with **Tori Amos** or **Fiona Apple**. Let's just put it this way: You can see her Tuesday for free, or wait and pay $18 for one of the better seats when she headlines Denver's **Soiled Dove Underground** on April 19.

Showtime, by the way, is 5 p.m. And while Storey is slated to hit the stage at 7, it's still worth slipping out of work or class or whatever to get there in time for opening sets by some of the Springs' finest, including **Hopeful Heroines** and **A Black Day**.

Before we send you on your way, a handful of weekend shows worth considering: **Paul Myrow** will be playing **Front Range Barbeque** on Friday to celebrate the release of his third album, *Love Takes Me*, which the local singer-songwriter recorded down in Austin last year. Then on Saturday, **Mike Clark** and **Todd Bruington** are bringing the **Jack Trades** back to the stage after a hibernation that, with the exception of a couple benefit performances, dates back to the days when you still had a MySpace page. Catch them at the **Triple Nickel** with the **Joe Johnson Band**.

Also on Saturday, **Agents of Sound**'s soul series on the upstairs patio at **Brewer's Republic** will depart from its DJ-centric format with a performance by **Flodignatic**, the mutant-funk/hip-hop congregation featuring **Stoney Bertz, Earsiq Radke, Big Ro, Animus Invidious** and **Charlie Milo**. It's a free show, although donations will be accepted to benefit the **Cystic Fibrosis Foundation**. Meanwhile, **Indy Music Award** winner **DJ Gravity**, plus **DJ Status** of Ann Arbor, Mich., and a couple more turntablists will also be on hand to keep Agents of Sound regulars from suffering too many withdrawal symptoms.

***Send news, photos and music to reverb@csindy.com; follow our updates at tinyurl.com/indyreverb.***

# PlayingAround

## LIVE MUSIC: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, THROUGH TUESDAY, APRIL 2

### Wednesday 03/27

**Back East,** *Andy Clifton (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
**Black Sheep,** *The Pinstripes (rock/pop),* 7 p.m., $10.
**Club Q,** *Open Mic Night (open mic),* 10 p.m.
**Frankie's,** *Open Mic (open mic),* 8:30 p.m.
**Front Range Barbeque,** *Grass It Up (bluegrass),* 8 p.m.
**Fujiyama,** *Trusedell Trio feat. Victoria Bruyette (jazz),* 6:30 p.m.
**Margarita at PineCreek,** *Crystal and the Curious (jazz),* 7 p.m.
**Meadow Muffins,** *Brian Parton (Americana),* 7 p.m.
**MoodSwings,** *Open Mic Night (open mic),* 8 p.m., $5, free for jammers.
**Park East,** *The Martini Shot Unplugged (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
**SouthSide Johnny's,** *Rawbert & I (rock/pop),* 9:30 p.m.
**Sunshine Studios,** *Boy Hits Car, The Mailbox Conspiracy, Send 'Em Down (rock/pop),* 6:30 p.m., $10.
**Zodiac,** *'80s Nite with DJ Monster Mike (dance),* 9 p.m.

### Thursday 03/28

**Adam's,** *Danny Shafer (acoustic),* 6:30 p.m.
**Ancient Mariner,** *Stolen Idol Productions presents Open Mic (open mic),* 8 p.m.
**Benny's,** *Open Mic with the Jerry Roskin Band (open mic),* 9 p.m.
**Black Sheep,** *Air Dubai, Drop Switch, Grits & Gravy* (rock/pop), 8 p.m., $10-$12.
**Blue Moose Tavern,** *Open Mic with Chauncy Crandall (open mic),* 8 p.m.
**Jack Quinn's,** *Brian Clancy (world),* 7:30 p.m.
**Margarita at PineCreek,** *The Other Band (rock/pop),* 6:30 p.m.
**Motif,** *Joe Uveges (acoustic),* 7:15 p.m.
**Park East,** *Sarah Wood & Theo DeCenzo (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
**Rico's,** *Susan Rissman and Tribe (jazz),* 7 p.m.
**Ritz,** *DJ Ron Perry (dance),* 9:30 p.m.
**SouthSide Johnny's,** *The Ticket (rock/pop),* 9:30 p.m.
**Spice Island,** *Reggae Nights (world),* 8 p.m.

### Friday 03/29

**Adam's,** *Danny Shafer (acoustic),* 11 a.m.
**Back East,** *Less Than Zero (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
**Benny's,** *Cari Dell Trio (blues),* 8 p.m.
**Black Sheep,** *December Downfall, Syke 96, The Mailbox Conspiracy (rock/pop),* 7:30 p.m., $5-$7.
**Broadmoor Academy of Music,** *Friday Jazz Jam Session (jazz),* 7 p.m.
**Cleats,** *Inman Brothers (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
**The Coffee Exchange,** *The Redheaded Zombie Show (indie),* 6 p.m.
**Crystola Roadhouse,** *Westcreek (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
**Cucuru,** *John Austin (acoustic),* 8 p.m.
**Front Range Barbeque,** *Paul Myrow (Americana),* 8 p.m.
**Fujiyama,** *Trusedell Trio feat. Victoria Bruyette (jazz),* 6:30 p.m.
**Jack Quinn's,** *DJ Rob G (dance),* 9 p.m.
**Johnny's Navajo Hogan,** *Ethel and the Regulators (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
**Kasey's,** *Friday Nights with DJ Panther (R&B),* 9 p.m.
**Keg Lounge,** *Arch Hooks (R&B),* 9:30 p.m.
**Margarita at PineCreek,** *Mango Fan Django (jazz),* 6:30 p.m.

## VENUE DIRECTORY

**Adam's Mountain Café,** 934 Manitou Ave., #102, Manitou Springs, 685-1430
**Ancient Mariner,** 962 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-5503
**Back East Bar & Grill,** 9475 Briar Village Point, 264-6161
**Benny's Restaurant & Lounge,** 517 W. Colorado Ave., 634-9309
**Black Sheep,** 2106 E. Platte Ave., 227-7625
**The Blue Moose Tavern,** 10530 Ute Pass Ave., Green Mountain Falls, 418-3384
**Brewer's Republic,** 112 N. Nevada Ave., 633-2105
**Broadmoor Academy of Music,** 1223 Lake Plaza Drive, Suite C, 576-3979
**Carey-On Saloon,** 6829 Space Village Ave., 591-0300
**Cleats Sports Bar & Grill,** 6624 Delmonico Drive, 548-8267
**Club Q,** 3430 N. Academy Blvd., 570-1429
**The Coffee Exchange,** 526 S. Tejon St., 635-0277
**Crystola Roadhouse,** 20918 U.S. Hwy. 24, Woodland Park, 687-7879
**Cucuru Gallery Café,** 2332 W. Colorado Ave., 520-9900
**Frankie's Bar & Grill,** 945 N. Powers Blvd., 574-4881
**Front Range Barbeque,** 2330 W. Colorado Ave., 632-2596
**Fujiyama,** 22 S. Tejon St., Suite A, 630-1167
**Jack Quinn Irish Alehouse & Pub,** 21 S. Tejon St., 385-0766
**Johnny's Navajo Hogan,** 2817 N. Nevada Ave., 344-9593
**Kasey's Bar & Grill,** 1919 E. Boulder St., 635-8128
**Keg Lounge,** 730 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-9531
**Lounge in the Village,** 3440 W. Carefree Circle, 550-9721

**Got a live music event readers should know about?** Send us the band/musician, where they're playing and when (day, date and time), how much it will cost and a contact phone number — by Wednesday

**MoodSwings,** *Cory Slater (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $5.
**Motif,** *Brad Bietry Trio (jazz),* 7:45 p.m.
**Rawkus,** *Jen Lasher (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
**Red Martini,** *Dick Cunico (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.
**Rico's,** *Grant Sabin (blues),* 7:30 p.m.
**Sky Box Lounge,** *Jeff "Fitty" Smith (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
**Sonterra,** *John Stone (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
**SouthSide Johnny's,** *The Ticket (rock/pop),* 9:30 p.m.
**Stargazers,** *Soul School (R&B),* 8 p.m., $15.
**Sunshine Studios,** *Last Savior of God, Fighting the Phoenix, Breaking the Cycle (metal),* 6:30 p.m.
**Townhouse,** *Jamaican Eclipse (world),* 9 p.m.
**Triple Nickel,** *Ghost Dance, American Mourning (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
**Ute Inn,** *One Eleven (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
**V Bar,** *DJ Gravity (dance),* 9 p.m.
**Wyatt's,** *Jeff Sempek (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.
**Zodiac,** *Inelements, Sanguine Addiction, Aesthetic Delirium (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $5.

## Saturday 03/30

**Ancient Mariner,** *The Manapes (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
**Back East,** *Less Than Zero (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
**Benny's,** *Big Sky (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
**Black Sheep,** *Exhumed, Sinister Creed, Execration (hardcore),* 7 p.m., $12.
**Blue Moose Tavern,** *John Will (acoustic),* 8 p.m.
**Brewer's Republic,** *Soul, feat. Flodignatic, Animus Invidious, Stoney Bertz, Earsiq, DJ Status, DJ Gravity (hip-hop),* 9 p.m.
**Carey-On Saloon,** *Exit West (country),* 9 p.m.
**Cleats,** *Inman Brothers (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
**Crystola Roadhouse,** *Jeffrey Alan Band (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
**Cucuru,** *Dave Day Jazz Trio (jazz),* 8 p.m.
**Frankie's,** *6035 (rock/pop),* 8:30 p.m.
**Johnny's Navajo Hogan,** *The Fright (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
**Lounge in the Village,** *Legend Band (country),* 8 p.m.
**MoodSwings,** *Heather Romero (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $5.
**Motif,** *Alan Joseph, Andy Burtschi, Mike Marlier (jazz),* 7:45 p.m.
**Rico's,** *Burn the Maps (folk),* 7:30 p.m.
**Ritz,** *DJ Serge (dance),* 9:30 p.m.
**Sky Box Lounge,** *The Reid Holmes Invitational "Live Music Jam" (open mic),* 8 p.m.
**Sonterra,** *John Stone (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
**Sunshine Studios,** *Fyia Mayne, T.J.R., Kent Washington (hip-hop),* 6:30 p.m., $10.
**Townhouse,** *Radio London (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
**Triple Nickel,** *The Jack Trades, Mr and Mrs Jones, The Joe Johnson Band (indie),* 9 p.m., $5.
**V Bar,** *DJ Gravity (dance),* 9 p.m.
**Zodiac,** *War Parts, Red Fox Fun, Anthony Ruptak (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $5.

## Sunday 03/31

**Jack Quinn's,** *Traditional Irish Session (world),* 3 p.m.
**Rawkus,** *Dem Van Nghe Gay Quy (world),* 8 p.m.
**Smiley's,** *Blue Frog (blues),* 11 a.m.

## Monday 04/01

**Black Sheep,** *Adrenaline Mob (hardcore),* 7 p.m., $15.
**Zodiac,** *Open Mic hosted by Andrea Stone (open mic),* 7 p.m.

## Tuesday 04/02

**Benny's,** *Sweet T's Rude Blues Jam (blues),* 7 p.m.
**Black Sheep,** *Minus the Bear, Everest, Envy Corps (rock/pop),* 7 p.m., $20.
**Townhouse,** *Jam Night, with Tim Costello (acoustic),* 8 p.m.
**Zodiac,** *Goth Nite with DJ Johnny Coffin (dance),* 9 p.m.

*Low comes to Denver's Larimer Lounge this Friday. (See album review, p. 34.)*

# BigGigs

**The Pinstripes**, Black Sheep, March 27 • **Air Dubai**, Black Sheep, March 28 • **Erykah Badu**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 30 • **Exhumed**, Black Sheep, March 30 • **Adrenaline Mob**, Black Sheep, April 1 • **Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band, Joe Walsh**, Pepsi Center, Denver, April 2 • **Minus the Bear**, Black Sheep, April 2 • **Alt-J**, Bluebird Theater, Denver, April 3 • **Deer Tick**, CC's Armstrong Hall, April 3 • **The Devil Wears Prada, As I Lay Dying**, Black Sheep, April 3-4 • **The Elders**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, April 6 • **Radical Something**, Black Sheep, April 6 • **Bad Religion**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 10 • **The Doobie Brothers**, Pikes Peak Center, April 10 • **Moses Jones**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, April 10 • **The Parlotones**, Black Sheep, April 10 • **Chris Cagle**, Cowboys, April 11 • **Bullet for My Valentine**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 12 • **Jimmy Thackery & the Drivers**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, April 12 • **Big Bill Morganfield**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, April 13 • **Peter Yarrow**, Daniels Hall at Swallow Hill, Denver, April 13 • **Fear Factory**, Black Sheep, April 14 • **Family of the Year**, Black Sheep, April 17 • **Filter**, Black Sheep, April 18 • **Colin Hay**, Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Palmer Lake, April 20 • **The Motet, Ozomatli**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 20 • **Moreland & Arbuckle**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, April 27 • **Whiskey Fingers**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, May 3 • **Chris Duarte Group**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, May 4 • **John Prine**, Pikes Peak Center, May 4 • **Paramore**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, May 7 • **Stu Hamm**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, May 11 • **Fabolous, Pusha T**, Ogden Theatre, Denver, May 14 • **Imagine Dragons**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, May 16 • **Miranda Lambert, Dierks Bentley**, Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre, Englewood, May 18 • **Dropkick Murphys**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, May 29 • **Bassnectar**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, May 31 to June 1 • **Buddy Whittington with the Atomic Fireballs**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, May 31 • **Fleetwood Mac**, Pepsi Center, Denver, June 1 • **Gina Sicilia**, Venue 515, Manitou Springs, June 1 • **Taylor Swift**, Pepsi Center, Denver, June 2 • **The xx**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, June 3 • **Sting**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 5 • **Darius Rucker, with Rodney Atkins**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 6 • **Umphrey's McGee, Dr. Dog**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 7 • **Celtic Woman**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 9 • **Pitbull/Ke$ha**, Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre, Englewood, June 11 • **Datsik**, Ogden Theatre, Denver, June 14-15 • **DeVotchKa, with the Colorado Symphony, Amanda Palmer**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, June 14 • **Tim McGraw**, Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre, Englewood, June 15 • **Rob Zombie, Five Finger Death Punch, Mastodon**, Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre, Englewood, July 7 • **Matchbox Twenty/Goo Goo Dolls**, Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre, Englewood, July 15 • ***Global Dance Festival*, with Beats Antique, EOTO**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, July 19-21 • **Rodrigo y Gabriela, with the Colorado Symphony**, Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, July 28 • **Brad Paisley**, Fiddler's Green Amphitheatre, Englewood, Aug. 1 • **Rush**, Pepsi Center, Denver, Aug. 2 •

**Margarita at PineCreek,** 7350 Pine Creek Road, 598-8667
**Meadow Muffins,** 2432 W. Colorado Ave., 633-0583
**MoodSwings Acoustic Lounge,** 696 N. Circle Drive, 201-2592
**Motif,** 2432 Cucharras St., 635-5635
**Park East Restaurant,** 720 Goodnight Ave., Pueblo, 719/565-6655
**Rawkus,** 3506 N. Academy Blvd., 596-0000
**Red Martini,** 25 N. Tejon St., 634-3522
**Rico's Café and Wine Bar,** 322½ N. Tejon St., 578-5549
**Ritz Grill,** 15 S. Tejon St., 635-8484
**The Sky Box Lounge,** 2102 E. Bijou St., 634-4815
**Smiley's Bakery and Café,** 323 N. Tejon St., 328-9447
**Sonterra Innovative Southwest Grill,** 28B S. Tejon St., 471-9222
**SouthSide Johnny's,** 528 S. Tejon St., 444-8487
**Spice Island Grill,** 10 N. Sierra Madre St., 473-8280
**Stargazers Theatre and Event Center,** 10 S. Parkside Drive, 476-2200
**Sunshine Studios,** 3970 Clearview Frontage Road, 392-8921
**Townhouse Lounge,** 907 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1085
**Triple Nickel Tavern,** 26 S. Wahsatch Ave., 477-9555
**Ute Inn,** 204 W. Midland Ave., Woodland Park, 687-1465
**V Bar,** 19 E. Kiowa St., 635-9599
**Wyatt's Pub & Grill,** 806 Village Center Drive, 598-4100
**Zodiac,** 230 Pueblo Ave., 632-5059

**at noon for the following week's paper. If we don't receive confirmation of ongoing events on a monthly basis, they won't run. Send to: livemusic@csindy.com.**


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FOR TODAY, THE CHARIOT
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APR 17 - FAMILY OF THE YEAR
APR 18 - FILTER
APR 19 - OMNYN
APR 20 - VOODOO GLOW SKULLS
APR 22 - BROADWAY CALLS
APR 27 - KING
APR 28 - FACE TO FACE
APR 30 - CHUNK, NO CAPTAIN CHUNK!
MAY 3 - IAMDYNAMITE
MAY 4 - PEAKS AND PASTIES
MAY 10 - BUILT TO SPILL
MAY 13 - MUSHROOMHEAD
MAY 21 - CAPITAL CITIES
MAY 24 - REHAB
MAY 25 - LOGIC
MAY 26 - TRAPT
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# AudioFile

## To infinity and beyond

### Minus the Bear moves in a more guitar-centered direction

**By Chris Parker**

The brilliant thing about Minus the Bear is that each of the Seattle band's five albums is distinct, yet uniquely Minus the Bear. So whether the effect is clamorous or cold, driven by guitar or keyboard, it expresses the same deceptively catchy art-rock dynamic.

There was, for example, 2010's *Omni*, an R&B-infused disco-prog album helmed by Grammy-winning producer Joe Chiccarelli (whose clients have included the Strokes, Shins, Zappa and Bon Jovi). Their most poppy, synth-heavy and rhythmic album to date, it divides fans and band members alike. While singer/guitarist Jake Snider and bassist Cory Murchy have lauded the album, principal songwriters Dave Knudson and Erin Tate have expressed reservations, particularly about some of the glossier post-production choices.

"It was a great learning experience to work with someone outside, who had different ideas, and to kind of collaborate," says Murchy. "Some people loved it, some people hated it, but I think that's the case with any of our records, so that kind of goes with the territory."

Minus the Bear brought back the guitars for last year's *Infinity Overhead*, while retaining some of *Omni*'s hooky energy. The arrangements generally aren't as proggy and byzantine, with more than half the songs coming in under the four-minute mark.

Even the longer songs, such as the haunting, textured "Heaven Is a Ghost Town," wraps up in under five. Meanwhile, the jarring post-punk angularity that struck so sharply on 2005's *Menos El Oso* has given way to a smoother, subtler attack. Behind the boards this time is former bandmate and usual producer Matt Bayles (Mastodon, Polar Bear Club).

"We veered away from the more heavy-handed electronic, keyboard-y stuff," says Murchy. "Back to the roots, if you will."

Bayles is also onboard for the next release, an acoustic album the band is just now putting the finishing touches on. It will feature nine old tunes and a couple of brand new ones, much like Minus the Bear's 2008 *Acoustics* EP.

"There are so many pedals and such an electronic facet to our band that it's really nice to just strip all of that away and just get down to the core," says Murchy. "Strip it all away and you really get to the meat of the song. So it's awesome to revisit some of that stuff and come at it from a different angle. I think it's healthy."

Murchy also mentions the possibility of releasing a B-sides album somewhere in the future. "There are a lot of songs we didn't know what to do with, and a lot of songs we really love just ended up on B-side island."

Minus the Bear's current tour is divided between headlining dates like Colorado Springs, and co-headlining dates with cult emo favorites Circa Survive, something they've done before while touring with indie-rock chums Cursive.

"Being exposed to their fans," says Murchy, "that's what you want, to get in front of some people that may have heard the name but never have actually seen you. It's a good opportunity."

Still, Minus the Bear remains grateful for the loyal fan base that's helped them stay at it for a dozen years now.

"We've been extremely fortunate to have so much support and love for us," reflects Murchy. "Not to be cheesy, but it's true. We wouldn't be able to do it without them."

***— scene@csindy.com***

***'A lot of songs we really love just ended up on B-side island.'***

**CAPSULE**

**Minus the Bear, with Everest, Envy Corps**

**Tuesday, April 2, doors at 7 p.m.**

**Black Sheep, 2106 E. Platte Ave.**

**Tickets: $20, all ages; blacksheeprocks.com, 227-7625.**

# SoundAdvice

**Dave Grohl / Various Artists**

*Sound City: Real to Reel*

*RCA Records*

**File next to:** Queens of the Stone Age, Soundgarden

Dave Grohl, already a man of many projects, recently added "director" to his résumé with *Sound City*, a documentary chronicling the storied history of the titular California studio. The film's soundtrack features new material from Grohl and his many friends on guest vocals — an embarrassment of riches including Paul McCartney, Stevie Nicks and Trent Reznor. Grohl and his cohorts are clearly having a fantastic time, and it all works well on the towering psychedelia of Chris Goss' "Time Slowing Down," the gritty garage rock of McCartney's "Cut Me Some Slack," and the spiky, melodic "The Man That Never Was" with Rick Springfield (yes, the man responsible for the worst song ever written, "Jessie's Girl"). Still, several songs drag a few minutes beyond their welcome, resulting in an album that's not quite as fun to listen to as it undoubtedly was to make. ***— Collin Estes***

**The Strokes**

*Comedown Machine*

*RCA Records*

**File next to:** Radiohead, !!!, Magnetic Fields, A-ha

The Strokes already went through the full bell curve, from Next Big Thing to brunt of everyone's jokes, so what's left to do besides wonder why Julian Casablancas keeps making the same album over and over? To be fair, the Strokes try to sound fresh in their own way, which involves stretching their chameleon skins to sound like as many other bands as possible. Casablancas also forsakes his mid-tenor from time to time, as on "Tap Out," where he goes for a Thom Yorke falsetto. But when the Strokes do Radiohead, it actually sounds more interesting than Yorke's current approach, since the band preserves some semblance of a beat. Sure, there are times when the Strokes ape silly synth-y dance tunes too directly ("One Way Trigger" could be a beat-for-beat copy of A-ha's "Take On Me"), but at least it's more interesting than trying to remake *Is This It* again. ***— Loring Wirbel***

**Low**

*The Invisible Way*

*Sub Pop*

**File next to:** Dirty Three, Wilco

Although Duluth, Minn.-based trio Low established itself with sparse, slow and wintry arrangements, its sound expanded over the past decade to incorporate chamber-pop instruments, noisy guitar excursions and subtle electronics. More steadfast elements that remain include the gorgeous vocals of husband-and-wife Alan Sparhawk and Mimi Parker, plus an intense spirituality that permeates the music. These key elements define *The Invisible Way* more than any superficial musical trappings. Jeff Tweedy's production is warm, colorful and accessible, especially compared to the group's early monochromatic minimalism, allowing the songs' beauty to aim straight for the heart. Some musical elements are striking, such as the gentle piano on "Amethyst" and the wall of vocal harmonies on "So Blue." Even so, the album as a whole conjures a transcendent beauty much greater than the sum of its parts. ***— Collin Estes***

# Listings

PICK Indicates our recommendations for this week.

## YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PIKES PEAK REGION

## ArtEvents

***Art on the Streets,*** a year-long exhibit of sculpture vetted by local art patrons Jim Raughton and Kathy Loo. The 12 pieces are done by artists from Colorado and around the country. Go online for a map. Through next summer. Downtown, various venues, downtown80903.com.

**Big Picture Discussion Group,** join others to talk about art and spirituality. Wednesdays, 6 p.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, tinyurl.com/cs6lo26.

**Clay Art Classes,** a variety of classes on topics like paper-clay, raku, handbuilding and wheel throwing. Through May 1. Cup and Bowl Gallery, 116 Midway Ave., Pueblo, 719/404-3469, cupandbowl.org.

**Downtown Skill Share,** an all-ages open art session featuring random experimentations and creations with Concrete Couch. An open-mic music jam follows. Thursdays, 4 p.m.; through May 30. Free. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, concretecouch.org.

**Fab Lab and Recycling Center,** weekly sessions to fix items or create new things with Concrete Couch. Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

**Life Drawing Sessions,** with a live model. RSVP to Tina at 685-1282. Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. $5. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

**Modbo Art Classes,** offering an intro to drawing class and intro to oil painting on Monday nights beginning April 1, and intermediate and advanced oil painting classes on Tuesday nights beginning April 2. Taught by Modbo co-owner and curator Brett Andrus. Call 633-4240 or e-mail themodbo@gmail.com to register. $140-$145, plus a $10 model fee. Modbo, 17C E. Bijou St., 633-4240, themodbo.wordpress.com.

**Wine and Art Saturdays,** a weekly event for appreciation of creative endeavors, both high-culture and viticulture. Saturdays, 4-6 p.m. Hayden Hays Broadmoor Galleries, 1 Lake Circle, 577-5744, haydenhaysgallery.com.

## ArtExhibits

**Business of Art Center,** 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org. *Wunderkind*, the BAC's annual celebration of young artists from many local public and private schools, including Pikes Peak Prep, Pine Creek High School and the Fountain Valley School. *Wunderfotographie: A Retrospective*, an exhibition of student work from those who have studied photography with Lilian Critchlow over the past five years. Wunderkind Alumni, an exhibition of works from young local artists featured in previous editions of the BAC's annual *Wunderkind* show. All shows up through April 20.

**Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center,** 30 W. Dale St., 634-5581, csfineartscenter.org. *Families*, a multidisciplinary project featuring two exhibits, *A Family Affair: Selections from the Progressive Art Collection*, a multimedia show featuring numerous angles on the idea of family from contemporary and emerging artists, and *Mother: Photography by Carol S. Dass*, a solo show by this local photographer seeing her mother through new eyes. Through May 19.

**Commonwheel Artists Co-op,** 102 Cañon Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1008, commonwheel.com. *Clay to Treetop*, an exhibition of mixed-media pieces capturing "the Life found in nature." Through April 15.

PICK **Kreuser Gallery,** 218 W. Colorado Ave., 630-6347, abigailkreusergallery.com. *Paintings by Kearston Corey*, also showing the neighboring Aha Gallery, photographs of Japan from Tommy Dykes. Through March 31.

**Cottonwood Center for the Arts,** 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com. *The Life Abstract*, a juried show featuring abstract, nonrepresentational artwork judged by Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center museum director Blake Milteer and local artist/Colorado College instructor Scott Johnson. Power Boothe, a CC alum and local artist who has shown in New York City, will also display. March 29 to May 17. Opening reception, Fri., March 29, 5-8 p.m.

**CSU-Pueblo's Fine Art Gallery,** 2200 Bonforte Blvd., Pueblo, 719/549-2404, chass.colostate-pueblo.edu/Art/Galleries/Pages/Galleries.aspx. *Beasts, Trolls, and the Magical Body*, an exhibition from four artists focusing on the theme of the humanized fairy tale. Through April 5.

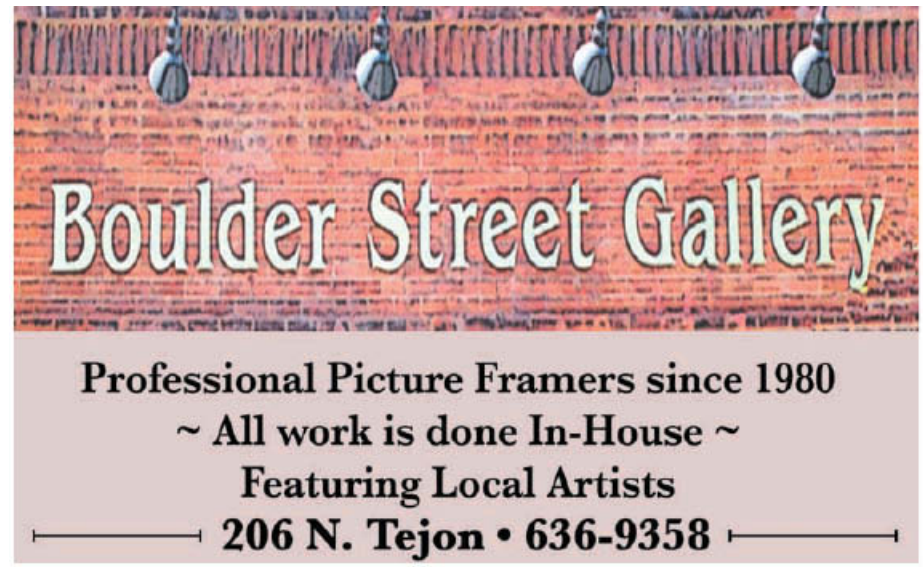
**Downtown Studio Gallery at Pikes Peak Community College,** 100 W. Pikes Peak Ave., 502-4040, ppcc.edu/departments/art/pppcc-art-gallery. *AIR LIGHT BREATH*, an exhibit by Corey Drieth, Donny Dixon, DeLane Bredvik and Tanya Gelster concerning "physical manifestations of ethereal phenomena." Through April 12.

**Gallery 113,** 113 N. Tejon St., gallery-113.com. Susie Jernigan, an exhibition of works by this local painter as well as wall art, jewelry, pottery, cards, and wood carving from the Gallery 113 co-op artists. Through April 10.

**Gold Hill Mesa Community Center,** 142 S. Raven Mine Drive. *Faces of the Fire*, a photo exhibit and multimedia gallery show documenting the Waldo Canyon Fire, from the perspective of the residents who lived through it. Through Aug. 31.

**Hillside Community Center,** 925 S. Institute St., 492-2524, springsgov.com. *Battle Scars*, an exhibit from Isaac Torres, who says, "Just as my physical battle scars, my emotional scars will always remain — but that is not the end for me." Through March 30.

**I.D.E.A. Space at Colorado College,** Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6066, theideaspace.com. *Voices From Japan: Perspectives on Disaster and Hope*, a variety of events and exhibitions at locations across the college curated by Colorado College professor Joan Er-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icson, who was in Japan when the earthquake hit in 2011. In addition, poetry and artwork responding to the Waldo Canyon Fire will also be displayed. Through April 6. Three panel discussions: "Voices From Japan Translated," Wed., March 27, 4 p.m.; "Literature in Times of Disaster," Thurs., March 28, 4 p.m.; "Geology of the Region," Fri., March 29, 4 p.m., all held in the Cornerstone Arts Center film screening room. Free.

**J's Gameroom & Café,** 3047 Jet Wing Drive, 392-2714, jsgameroom.com. *Bold and Captivating*, an exhibition from the Colorado Springs Creative Photography Group. Through April 30.

**Marika's Coffeehouse,** 739 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-4438, marikascoffeehouse.com. *Hyperspective*, an exhibition of paintings "alive with intricacies, imagination and inspiration" from Danny Gillies.

**Mountain Community Mennonite Church,** 643 Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake, 481-3155, mcgallerypl.com. *Awakening*, a selection of 2D artworks from local artists. Through April 12.

**Phantom Canyon Brewing Co.,** 2 E. Pikes Peak Ave., 635-2800, phantomcanyon.com. *Works by Karen Simkiss and Jim Simkiss*, photography and encaustic works. Through March 31.

## Auditions&Entries

**Business of Art Center** seeks entries for its juried photography exhibition *Colorado in Focus*. Work must be delivered ready to hang. Deadline for entries is April 14. $10 for first piece, $5 for each additional. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

**Canyon Winds Band,** a nonprofit concert band, seeks new members of all kinds and performance abilities. $50. 271-8666, dougdowney@centurylink.net.

**Colorado Association for Recycling** seeks entries for its seventh annual Recycling Poster Contest, open to students in grades K-12. Prizes include gift cards and workshops from Project Learning Tree. Visit website for more info and entry guidelines. Deadline: April 26, 2013. 583-4309, aldred@co.pueblo.co.us, cafr.org/events/posterContest.php.

**Commonwheel Artists Co-Op** seeks "new and unique work." Applications are available online, or at the gallery. Commonwheel Artists Co-op, 102 Cañon Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1008, commonwheel.com.

**Cottonwood Center for the Arts** seeks entries for its upcoming show, *Wily and Wonderful Things*. Works celebrating the aesthetics of outsider art and steampunk will be considered, including painting, sculpture and worn art. Intake: May 23-24. It also seeks entries for its upcoming show, *Standing on the Shoulders of Cowboys*. Works reflecting the themes of the American Frontier or the modern Southwest will be considered, including painting, sculpture and worn art. Intake: July 18-19. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com.

**Pikes Peak Library District** seeks photos of your favorite "third place" — a space away from home or work you feel comfortable and engaged in. Through March 31. ppld.org/21centurylibrary.

**Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church** seeks a drummer to perform in its upcoming musical, *In Remembrance*. Two rehearsals per week in February and March; performances in early April. Call for details. Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church, 1102 S. 21st St., 578-5626.

**Westside Community Center** seeks submissions for the annual show *Finding Our Voices*. Deadline for poetry is March 24; deadline for visual art is April 10. Westside Community Center, 1628 W. Bijou St., 460-7836, findingourvoicescs.org.

PICK **Western Museum of Mining and Industry,** 225 Northgate Blvd., 488-0880, 800/752-6558, wmmi.org. Spring Break with the Burros, a chance to meet the burros Nugget and Chism, learn about the animal's role in mining history, tour the museum and more. Fri., March 29, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. $4-$8. Rocks & Mineral Auction, the annual silent auction and bake sale to benefit the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society, featuring an assortment of mineral specimens, slabs for lapidary work, fossils, and finished pieces. Sat., March 30, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. *Colorado Women's Hall of Fame Portrait Gallery*, a special exhibit in honor of National Women's History Month highlighting the heroines of Colorado history. Through March 31. $4-$8.

## Clubs&Organizations

**Black Cat Books' Knitting Group,** a weekly celebration of yarn and stitchery, now at Black Cat Books' new location in the BAC. E-mail RSVP requested. Sundays, 4-6 p.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, natalie@blackcatbooks.com, thebac.org.

**Colorado Native Club,** a gathering for native Coloradans over a pot luck dinner with a presentation on state history and culture. (Rescheduled to third Thursday of every month to not conflict with holidays.) Fourth Thursday of every month, 5:45-7:30 p.m. Free, $10 per year to join. Inn at Garden Plaza, 2520 International Circle, 632-6806, innatgardenplaza.com.

**Investment Club,** a night of snacks, beverages and discussion of financial opportunities, led by a professional financial advisor. Enjoy two free meetings before joining. First Tuesday of every month, 6:15 p.m. $20. Rocky Mountain Community Land Trust, 1212 W. Colorado Ave., 447-9300, rmclt.org.

**Knitwits & Hookers,** a knitting and crochet group where all levels of experience are welcome; contact for meeting details as they change weekly. Mondays. Free. ravelry.com.

**MMJ-Patient Meeting,** an open gathering from Coloradans 4 Cannabis Patient Rights. Last Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m. Free. Lofty's, 287 E. Fountain Blvd., #100, 271-8430, c4cpr.org.

**MS Support Groups,** offering five support groups around the region for those living with MS and their caregivers. For locations and information call 633-4603. Multiple Sclerosis Alliance of Southern Colorado, 1322 N. Academy Blvd., #119, 633-4603, msasoco.org.

**Networking Groups,** Pikes Peak Job Search Networking Group meets Mondays, 10 a.m. to noon. 50+ Job Seekers Group meets Thursdays, 10 a.m. to noon. Free. Citizens Service Center, 1675 Garden of the Gods Road, 636-0000, dhs.elpasoco.com.

**No-Nuts Moms Group of Colorado Springs,** a peanut- and tree-nut-free playgroup for all ages, who can participate in indoor and outdoor play dates. Contact the group for specific times and dates. Free. tinyurl.com/nonutsmoms.

**Parrotheads of Colorado Springs,** a Jimmy Buffett appreciation group committed to supporting the local community through volunteerism and

fundraising. E-mail for information on upcoming events and projects. Ongoing. parrotheadscos@gmail.com.

**Sno Jets Ski and Social Club,** a club for ski enthusiasts. Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Dublin House, 1850 Dominion Way, 265-8820, snojets.org.

**Sons of Italy Pikes Peak,** a monthly meeting of the service and advocacy organization for people of Italian descent. Held at VFW Post 101 (702 S. Tejon St.). First Tuesday of every month, 6:30 p.m. 481-8623.

**Toastmasters Open House,** a chance to learn more about the organization. Held at Ent Federal Credit Union (7350 Campus Drive). RSVP by April 1 for the April 3, noon event. Free. entspirational.toastmastersclubs.org.

**WINGS,** offering therapist-facilitated support groups for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse in which survivors are believed and accepted. A women's group is held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30. A men's and Loved Ones of Survivors' groups to start soon. 800/373-8671, wingsfound.org.

## Comedy&Improv

**This Ain't Funny,** an evening of comedy starring *Last Comic Standing*'s Chris Voth in honor of Jan Martin. Proceeds benefit Urban Peak, the Front Range aid agency for homeless youth. RSVP recommended. Mon., April 1, 7 p.m. $25-75. Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, 10 S. Parkside Drive, 630-3223 ext. 2820, andrea.thomson@urbanpeak.org.

## Concerts

**Friends House Concerts,** Seth Glier, Sun., March 24, 7 p.m. ($20), Antje Duvekot, Sat., April 20, 7:30 p.m. ($25), Peter Mulvey, Sun., June 16, 7 p.m. ($25). Payment should be through checks made out to Friends House Concerts. houseconcerts.org.

**Instant Composers Pool,** a concert from this legendary Amsterdam-based group, which blends improvised jazz with chamber music in the irreverent style known as "Dutch Swing." A production of the Peak FreQuency Creative Arts Collective. Tues., April 2, 7:30 p.m. UCCS' Berger Hall, 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 255-5134, uccs.edu/~peakfreq.

**Jody Adams Band, Jim Young, Craig Walter Band,** a Showcase at Studio Bee concert. Thurs., March 28, 6:45 p.m. Free. Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave., 520-7469, pikespeakcenter.com.

**"Voices from Japan": Concert,** two concerts featuring the world premiere of "a song sequence based on a selection of poetry from *Voices From Japan*." Receptions will follow both shows. Sat., March 30, 7 p.m. and Sun., March 31, 3 p.m. Free. CC's Packard Hall, 5 W. Cache la Poudre St., 389-6607, coloradocollege.edu.

## DanceParties&Classes

**Andante Blues Dance,** a chance to dance this "distinctly American dance." A beginners lesson provided. No partner required. Fridays, 9 p.m. $4-$6 donation. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 963-1809, kkschmidt@lettucebrain.com, movementartscs.com.

**CommuniDance,** a free-form dance group. Saturdays, 9-10 a.m. and Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. By donation. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 963-1809, movementartscs.com.

**Pikes Peak Traditional Dance,** contra dancing to live music by the Grouchy Geezers, with dances taught and called. All-ages, no partner or special dress required. Beginners welcome. Sat., March 30, 7:30 p.m. $4-$8. Celtic Steps Irish School of Dance, 3333 N. El Paso St., 578-8979, celticsteps@aol.com, pptdcontra.com.

**Spring Break Dance Workshop,** a four-day dance workshop with Ballet Emmanuel, the Springs-based professional Christian ballet company. Ages 4-9 and 10 through adult; no dance experience necessary. Register by March 18. Call or e-mail for registration form and class times. Through March 28. $40-75. Turning Pointe School of Dance, 7667 N. Union Blvd., 433-8820, balletemmanuelcompany@gmail.com.

## Film

**Achieve With Us Film Festival,** a celebration of National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, featuring films by, and about, people with developmental disabilities. Thurs., March 28, 1 p.m. Free. Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, 10 S. Parkside Drive, 476-2200, stargazerstheatre.com.

***Breaking the Taboo,*** a discussion and screening of the drug-war documentary narrated by Morgan Freeman. Mon., April 1, 7 p.m. Free. University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 255-3471, uccs.edu.

***Can You See Our Lights? First Festival After the Tsunami* and *Fukushima Hula Girls,*** a screening of these two documentaries following the aftermath of the Tohoku region disaster. Sat., March 30, 4 p.m. Free. CC's Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave., coloradocollege.edu.

**Cinemaholics,** weekly film screenings with free popcorn and drink specials. Go online for updates. Tuesdays, 9-11:30 p.m. Free. Shuga's, 702 S. Cascade Ave., 328-1412, shugasblog.com.

***Iron Jawed Angels,*** a screening of the intense, inspiring film about women's suffrage in the United States, starring Hilary Swank as activist Alice Paul. Pre-film introduction by Susan Daggett. Fri., March 29, 7:30 p.m. Millibo Art Theatre, 1367 Pecan St., 465-6321, wearewomenco@gmail.com, wearewomenco.org.

***Secrets and Lies,*** a film from UK director Mike Leigh, with a discussion on the theme of family as explored in the movie with moderator Robert Von Dassanowsky, Director of the Film Studies program at UCCS. Wed., March 27, 7 p.m. $5-$21. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5583, csfineartscenter.org.

## Food&Drink

**Dinner with Our Chef in the Kitchen,** a five-course dinner with wine prepared by Chef Larissa Warner. Reservations required. Thursdays, 7 p.m. $35 per person. Garden of the Gods Gourmet, 2528 W. Cucharras St., 471-2799, godsgourmet.net.

**FUNdamentals in Wine Series,** an educational series on wine fundamentals with wine, instruction and paired snacks. Reservations required, and can be made through Women for WineSense's website. Fourth Wednesday of every month, 5:30 p.m. $35. Soirée Events & Celebrations, 1003 A&B S. Tejon St., 351-7191, womenforwinesense.org.

**Pikes Peak Arts Fest** seeks restaurants and food vendors to participate in the 2013 Pikes Peak Arts Fest, held in America the Beautiful Park on July 5-7. Applications available online; due Friday, March 29. 206/851-8386, pikespeakartsfest.com.

PICK ***5 Broken Cameras,*** a screening of this Academy Award-nominated documentary hosted by the Middle East Peace Project of the Pikes Peak Justice and Peace Commission. Tues., April 2, 6:30 p.m. Penrose Library, 20 N. Cascade Ave., 803-3488, kinolorber.com/5brokencameras.

**Wine and Cheese Tasting,** featuring old-world wines and sommeliers Steve Kander and Gabriel Roddy. Thurs., March 28, 5:30 p.m. Craftwood Inn, 404 El Paso Blvd., Manitou Springs, 685-9000, craftwood.com.

## Health&Healing

**Energy Healing: An Experiential Workshop,** a hands-on class that discusses and practices the various forms of energy healing. Last Thursday of every month, 6:30-9 p.m. $10. Celebration Community Room, 2207 W. Colorado Ave., 465-3536, celebrationstore.com.

**GLBQTA Yoga,** exercise in a safe and empowering environment friendly toward beginners. Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. Donations welcome. Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church, 1102 S. 21st St., 304-9130, info@yogajuan.com.

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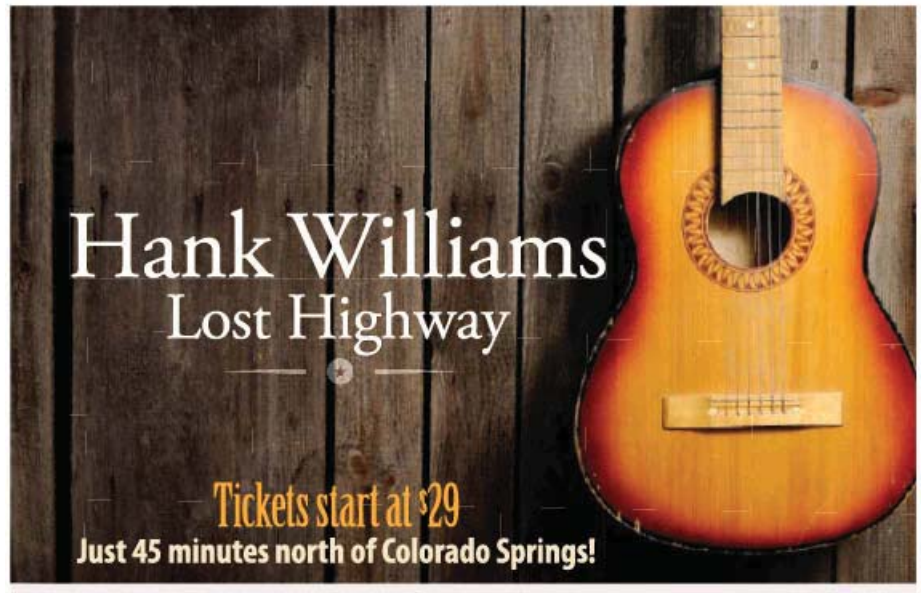

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We all have a story. For some it is happy, but for others it can be more dramatic. Whether your story is a comedy or a tragedy, there is a "happily ever after" available to you. This is no fairy tale though. This is your beautiful story.
Sunday, March 31 8am, 10am + 12pm
The Springs Church | 1515 Auto Mall Loop | (719) 488-8331
thespringschurch.com

EASTER at WOODMEN
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
March 29, 6:30 pm
ARISE
a story redeemed
We've all experienced the hardship of struggle, but do we know the beauty of redemption?
EASTER SERVICES
Saturday, March 30
3, 5, 7 pm
Sunday, March 31
7, 9, 11:15 am
Rockrimmon Campus
290 E. Woodmen Road, 80919
Woodmen Heights Campus
8292 Woodmen Valley View, 80908
For more info, visit woodmenvalley.org/easter.

THIS Easter SEASON
You are invited to Celebrate Easter Sunday with us March 31st
Worship Services:
8:00 AM | 9:30 AM | 11:00 AM
*Childcare all services
First United Methodist Church
420 N Nevada Ave
(at the corner of Boulder and Nevada)
719-471-8522 • www.fumc-cs.org

## Holiday

***Between Death and Life,*** a Good Friday dramatic production to prepare viewers' hearts for the celebration of Easter. Free childcare available. Fri., March 29, 7 p.m. Sunnyside Christian Church, 2025 N. Murray Blvd., 650-8416, sunnysidechristian.com.

**Chocolate Bunny Walk & Egg Hunt,** a chance for kids 2-10 to meet a live bunny, learn rabbit facts, then go on a goody-filled egg hunt with the Bunny Guide. Reservations required. Sat., March 30, 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. $5-$7. Fountain Creek Nature Center, 320 Peppergrass Lane, Fountain, 520-6745. Also held at the Bear Creek Nature Center. elpasocountyparks.com.

**Easter Bunny Visits,** a time of picture-taking, prizes and more. Through March 30. Citadel Mall, 750 Citadel Drive East, #3114, 591-2900, shopthecitadel.com.

**Easter Egg Hunt,** an exciting Easter egg hunt for kids age 3-9 on the walls of the climbing gym. Sign up by March 27 — Easter basket included for the first 30 registrants. Sat., March 30, 9 a.m. $20-25. CityRock, 21 N. Nevada Ave., 634-9099, climbcityrock.com.

**EGGStravaganZOO,** a chance to make and decorate hardboiled Easter eggs to feed to the zoo animals. Regular zoo admission prices apply. Sat., March 30, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, 4250 Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Road, 719-633-9925 ext. 111, cmzoo.org.

***King of Glory,*** a re-enactment of the life of Jesus. Held at The Master's House (124 N. Delaware Drive). March 29-30. Free. 596-3282, mastershouse.org.

**Silly Rabbit, Treats Are for Fur-kids!,** a chance for your four-footed friends to don a pair of bunny ears and get their picture taken with the Easter Bunny himself, courtesy of Cori Hickman Photography. Proceeds benefit local charity Big Dogs Huge Paws. Sat., March 30, 1-5 p.m. $10. Ruffing It, 5928 Stetson Hills Blvd., #120, 597-7833, ruffing-it.com.

**Victorian Easter Egg Hunt,** an event for kids age 2 to 10, followed by "an elegant High Tea." Each additional child and adult cost $17 and $28, respectively. Sat., March 30, 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. $45. Miramont Castle Museum, 9 Capitol Hill Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1011, miramontcastle.org.

**Manitou Yoga,** Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 8 a.m. $5. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

**Medicine Wheel and 12 Steps for Youth,** a three- to four-month course for youth who are at-risk for substance abuse. $15. Lotus Center for Self-Discovery, 2860 S. Circle Drive, #120, 229-8280, lotuscenterco.org.

**Men's and Women's Grief Support Groups,** open to anyone who has lost a loved one. For information on dates and times, call 573-4166. Odyssey Hospice, 5526 N. Academy Blvd. #108, 573-4166, odsyhealth.com/site.asp?id=12.

**Narcotics Anonymous,** second and fourth Wednesday of every month, 6-7 p.m. The Pride Center, 2508 E. Bijou St.

**Pilates Workshop,** an introductory class. Sat., March 30. $20. A core-conditioning and flexibility-enhancing workout with fitness industry expert Rebecca Lee. Sat., March 30, 2-4 p.m. $15-20. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, clients.mindbodyonline.com/ASP/home.asp?studioid=-8897.

**Plant Strong,** a chance for herbivores and carnivores alike to learn how to improve their nutrition with the Colorado Springs Vegan Society. RSVP by March 29. Sat., March 30, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. East Library, 5550 N. Union Blvd., 440-2714, meetup.com/CS-Vegan-Society/events/106202832.

**PTSD Peer-Led Support Group,** a support group for the spouses or significant others of a veteran or current military person suffering with PTSD. Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m. Veterans' Affairs Clinic, 25 N. Spruce St., #207, 685-1965.

**PTSD Support Group,** for soldiers experiencing nightmares, flashbacks, insomnia, irritability, and/or hyper-vigilance. Meet with other soldiers who are experiencing the same symptoms. Facilitated by a licensed therapist. Confidential. Covered by Tricare. Tuesdays, Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m. Soldier Life Center, 1767 S. Eighth St., #100, 471-0800, soldierlifecenter.com.

**Red Mountain Yoga,** a class that promises to warm and energize you; all levels welcome. Tuesdays, 6 p.m. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 338-3535, facebook.com/redmountainyoga.

**Rockies Counseling Center Therapy,** offering weekly support groups covering grief and loss, Love and Logic parenting, and Dialectic Behavioral Therapy Skills Group. Call for more info and to register. University of the Rockies, 555 E. Pikes Peak Ave., 442-0606, rockies.edu.

**Yoga for Beginners,** a donation-based class for beginners. Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. Sunrise Yoga Studio, 313 N. Tejon St., #1, 216-8367, vibranthealthclinic.com.

**Yoga for People Living with HIV/AIDS,** open to friends as well. Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. free. Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church, 1102 S. 21st St., 304-9130.

**Yoga for Special Needs,** Tuesdays, noon to 1:30 p.m. Yoga Journeys Studio, 709 N. Nevada Ave., #201, 375-1922.

**Yoga for Women in Recovery,** a donation-based vinyasa flow class open to all women, with those in 12-step programs especially encouraged to attend. Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m.; through Dec. 26. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 510-5000, flowinghopeyoga.org.

## Kids&Family

**Owls, Hawks and Maybe an Eagle,** a visit from the birds of the Pueblo Raptor Center, with cake and punch to follow. Sat., March 30, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wild Bird Center, 1722 E. Woodmen Road, 548-9863, birdingstore.com.

**Spring Break Camp: Animal X-Factor,** a chance for kids to learn about the talents and abilities of the animals at the zoo. Through March 29, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. $45.25-$50.25. Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, 4250 Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Road, 633-9925, cmzoo.org.

## Lectures&Learning

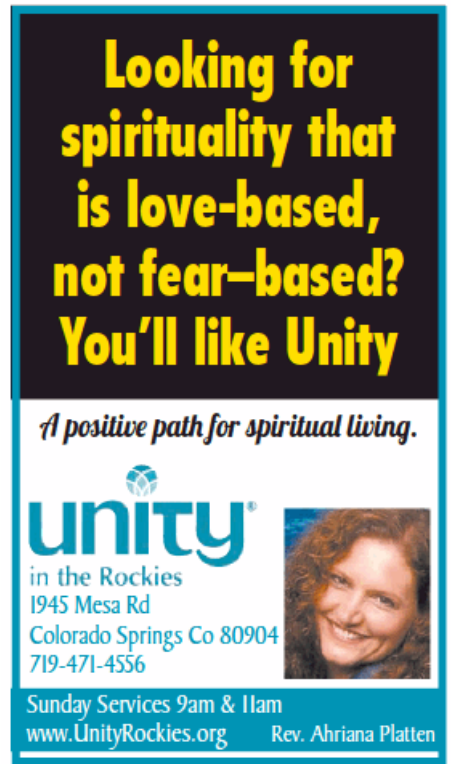
**Fire and Life Safety Evacuation Training,** a free class given by the Colorado Springs Police Department. Wed., March 27, 6 p.m. CSPD Sand Creek Division, 4125 Center Park Drive, 444 7270, tinyurl.com/bh97bfy.

**Home Security,** a free class given by the Colorado Springs Police Department. Thurs., March 28, 7 p.m. CSPD Stetson Hills Area Command, 4110 Tutt Blvd., 444-3168, tinyurl.com/bfg6n7p.

**Narco-trafficking and the Mexican-American Border,** a discussion from a panel of experts as part of CSU-Pueblo's annual Political Science Forum sponsored by the Political Science Club. Tues., April 2, 5:30-8:30 p.m. CSU-Pueblo's Occhiato University Center, 2200 Bonforte Blvd., Pueblo, 719/549-2161, colostate-pueblo.edu.

**"Perennials,"** two classes from the Colorado State University Extension Office on establishing or maintaining perennial beds. One class will be held Tues., April 2 from 2-4 p.m. at the CSU Extension Office, 305 S. Union Blvd. and repeated Thurs., April 4 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the El Paso County Citizen's Service Center, 1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road. $10. 520-7688, elpasoco.colostate.edu/hort/hort.shtml.

**"The Science of Planting Trees" and "What's Bugging Your Trees and Shrubs,"** a two-part class from the Colorado State University Extension Office on new methods for planting trees and the world of insects and diseases trees and bushes face. Thurs., March 28 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. El Paso County Citizen's Service Center,



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WORSHIP SERVICES

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Graham Baird, Senior Pastor
Services of Worship
Nevada at Bijou
Easter Services of Worship
Saturday, March 30
5 p.m., Sanctuary
Sunday, March 31
7, 8:30, 10, 11:30 a.m., Sanctuary
9, 10:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall
884-6100
www.first-pres.org

Metropolitan Community Church
theinclusivechurch
This Sunday @ 10am:
March 31;
Easter Celebration Service
1102 S. 21st Street, 80904
www.ppmcc.org

Come experience Welcome • Wonder • Witness
Open & Affirming
FIRST congregational CHURCH
March 31; EASTER
Sunrise service 6am
8:30 & 11am "Resurrection: Death Defeated"
Rev. Broadbent preaching
20 E. St. Vrain
Worship Services 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 Sundays
Faith Formation Hour 9:45 • Nursery Care 8:15-12:30
www.fcucc.org • 635-3549

Vista Grande Community Church
United Church of Christ
Join us for Sunday Services @ 10am
March 29th
Good Friday
Tenebrae service 7 pm
March 31st
EASTER
Egg hunt after worship for kids' grade 5 and younger
A caring church for thinking people
Open & Affirming ~ Nursery Provided
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THU: 7PM (Young Adults)
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9:30 am Saturday morning
Shabbat; Conservative tradition
Tickets on sale NOW for Israeli Fair on April 14th

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List your services by calling the Colorado Springs Independent at 577-4545

PICK **G44 Gallery,** 1785 S. Eighth St., Suite A, 720/951-0573, g44gallery.com. *You Already Know How This Will End*, an exhibition of the "minimalist and hauntingly beautiful" work of Michael Dowling. Through May 3.

1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road. $10. 520-7688, elpasoco.colostate.edu/hort/hort.shtml.

**Senior Resource Development Agency Classes,** registering for classes/sessions including line dancing, computer skills, painting, coupon-cutting and more. See the online calendar for current events. Senior Resource Development Agency, 230 N. Union Ave., Pueblo, 719/545-8900, srda.org.

## LiteraryEvents

**Facilitated Writing Class,** an eight-week meet-up with author and teacher Molly Wingate. Tues., April 2. $150. Quaker Meeting House, 950 E. Cimarron St., 685-4114, wingate-consulting.com.

**Visiting Artist Concert: Lorna Crozier and Patrick Lane,** a reading by these two Governor General's Award-winning poets and writers. Thurs., March 28, 7 p.m. Free. CC's Gates Common Room, 1025 N. Cascade Ave, coloradocollege.edu.

**Word Wednesdays,** an open mic session for poets, comedians, actors, singers and other performers to share their work. Search the event on Facebook for more. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. V Bar, 19 E. Kiowa St., 313-0683.

## Museums&Attractions

**Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center,** 1805 N. 30th St., 219-0108, gardenofgods.com. "Lunch & a Look at the Garden," a lecture series focusing on the life and times of the Garden, from history to nature to adventure tours, with an opportunity to continue the discussion over lunch at the café. Reservations recommended. Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.; through May 28.

**The Money Museum,** 818 N. Cascade Ave., 632-2646, money.org. 1913 Liberty Head Nickel Exhibition, a chance to see one of the five famed coins — the last one to sell went for $3.7 million — until it leaves for a national tour in April.

## SpecialEvents

PICK **Arts in Business and Education Luncheon,** a celebration of the arts featuring music, entertainment, awards and more. Reservations required. Wed., April 10, 11:30 a.m. $35. Antlers Hilton, 4 S. Cascade Ave., 238-5065, antlers.com.

**Asian Culture Night,** an evening of Asian performances and food, including dances, a fashion show and dinner. Sat., March 30, 5 p.m. Free. CC's Bemis Hall, 920 N. Nevada Ave., 389-6607, coloradocollege.edu.

**"Properties of Violence: Law and Land Grant Struggle in Northern New Mexico,"** a lunch and lecture with David Correia, the assistant professor of American studies at the University of New Mexico RSVP by March 29 for the April 3, noon event. $17. CC's Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6334, coloradocollege.edu.

## Sports&Recreation

**American Distance Project** seeks families willing to host Olympic-hopeful distance runners relocating to Colorado Springs to train with ADP, a locally-based nonprofit. 704/408-6258, americandistanceproject.com.

**Annual Running for Rachael Brain Booster 5K,** a fun run or walk to help raise money for pediatric brain tumor research. Runners will be timed, but this is also a family event, with vendors, music and food. You can also donate and run remotely, go online for more information. Same-day registration at 9 a.m. Sat., March 30, 10 a.m. $25-$30. United States Air Force Academy Athletics, 2168 Field House Drive, 646-2234, rroh.org.

**Body Toning,** a one-hour stretching and strengthening class. Tuesdays, 7 p.m. Free. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 554-6187, movementartscs.com.

**Colorado Brazilian Jiu Jitsu World Super Cup,** the inaugural Colorado Springs BJJ championship featuring fighters from around the country, ages 7 through adult at all levels from beginner to master. Sat., March 30, 9 a.m. Coronado High School, 1590 W. Fillmore St., 328-3600, supercupbjj.com.

**Cancer Survivor Fitness Program,** a basic eight-week strength and conditioning course. Dates/times flexible; call for more information. Ongoing. Phenom 1 Fitness, 1360 N. Academy Blvd., 330-4331, Lift4Life.org.

**C'mon Run,** free weekly 5K runs (or walks) with a free drink for each run and more freebies for the more runs you complete. Thursdays, 5 p.m. C'mon Inn, 711 Dale St., Fountain, 382-7562, cmoninnfountain.com.

**Coquette's Incline Club,** a Saturday morning workout in rain, snow or shine; also enjoy socializing, coffee and food. Ten climbs earns a free T-shirt. Saturdays, 8 a.m. Coquette's Bistro & Bakery, 915 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-2420, coquettesbistroandbakery.com.

**Front Rangers Juniors Cycling Kick-off Meeting,** a chance to learn more about this club for youth age 12-18, which cultivates a life-long of cycling through fitness and proficiency, skills progression, bike maintenance, racing and recreational riding, a team atmosphere, and character development. Tues., April 2, 5-8 p.m. USA Cycling, 210 USA Cycling Point, #100, 229-2445, frontrangers.org.

**Relay for Life of Colorado College,** a nighttime walk to remember those lost to cancer, celebrate survivors and raise money for research. Go online for registration information. Fri., March 29, 7 p.m. $10. CC's Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6607, ccrelay.org.

## Stage

***Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Musical,*** a production based on the Caldecott Honor–winning picture book. The gist: "Girl loves stuffed animal. Girl loses beloved animal. Girl fights to get animal back." Through March 31. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5581, csfineartscenter.org.

***Legally Blonde the Musical,*** a performance of the Broadway by the Fort Carson Community Theater. Held in Building 1129. Through March 30. $10. Fort Carson, Highway 115, 524-3619, carson.army.mil.

***Marisol,*** a post-apocalyptic story of self-discovery, loyalty and love amid a rapidly deteriorating reality. Fridays-Sundays, 8 p.m.; through March 31. $5-10. THEATREdART, 128 N. Nevada Ave., 357-8321, marisol.eventbrite.com.

***Other Desert Cities,*** a performance by the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center Theatre Company of the family drama that was a finalist for the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Through March 31. $18-$37. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, SaGaJi Theater, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5583, csfineartscenter.org.

***The Pilgrim's Progress,*** a marionette version of John Bunyan's classic allegory. March 27 to June 2. Simpich Showcase, 2413 W. Colorado Ave., 465-2492, simpich.com.

PICK ***The Restless Ghost of Emma Crawford,*** an original drama about Manitou's iconic spiritual being. Proceeds benefit the Manitou Springs Heritage Center, and Business of Art Center. Sat., March 30, 7 p.m. $5. Venue 515, 515 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

## VolunteerOpportunities

**ASSE International Student Exchange Programs** is seeking local families to host ASSE students. All students are between 15-18 years old and have passed a series of academic and character requirements. 800/733-2773.

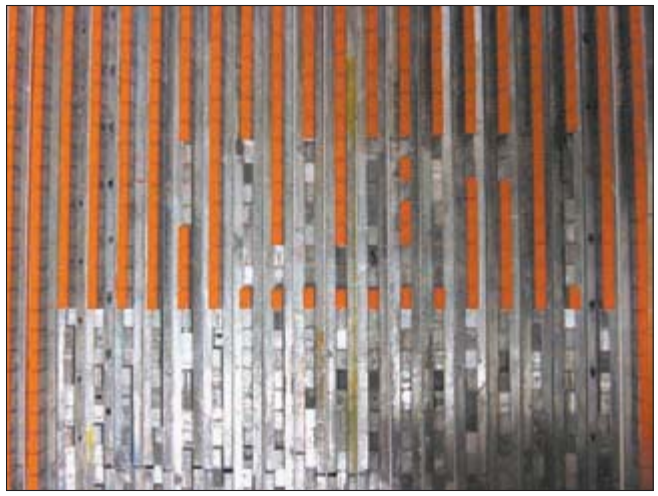
**Big Brothers Big Sisters - Pikes Peak** seeks volunteer mentors to join the organization and provide a healthy friendship with a child. Those interested should call 633-2443 or e-mail stephaniep@biglittlecolorado.org.

**Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance** seeks an experienced grant writer for local nonprofit serving individuals and families affected by

mood disorders. Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, 2132 E. Bijou, #112, 477-1515, dbsacoloradosprings.org.

**Engineers Without Borders** seeks volunteers to help with technical work and fundraising for its water project in Bolivia. E-mail or go online for more information. peisele@comcast.net, ewbcos.org.

**Evercare Hospice and Palliative Care** needs volunteers to assist patients and families as companion volunteers, massage therapy volunteers (must be licensed), healing touch volunteers (must be certified). Training provided. Please call 265-1109 for more.



PICK **CC's Coburn Gallery,** Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6606, theideaspace.com. *Any thing that Is strang*, a hands-on exhibition featuring broadsides, books, posters and more. Through April 16.

**North End Adult Day Care** seeks volunteers to play games, sing, make arts and crafts and more with North End's seniors, who are in need of memory care. Call for more information. 351-8786, northendadultdaycare.com.

**Odyssey HealthCare Hospice** is seeking volunteers to offer companionship to people with terminal illnesses by sharing your talents as a musician, artist, pet therapist or just by listening. Volunteers must complete training, call for dates. 573-4166, rshardy@odsyhealth.com.

**Pacific Intercultural Exchange** is seeking host families in El Paso County for English-speaking exchange students ages 15-18. P.I.E. works to match students with families who have similar interests and lifestyles. To learn more, call 866/546-1402.

**Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care** is seeking volunteers in various capacities, especially for help on the weekends, such as working in prescription animal therapy, performing courier duties, and acting as vigil volunteers (who sit with dying patients) and Helping Hands volunteers who perform various chores after a patient dies. Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care, 2550 Tenderfoot Hill St., 633-3400, pikespeakhospice.org.

**(Pikes) Peak Pet Pantry** is seeking donations of pet food and volunteers to help pick up and distribute food, talking to business sponsors and contacting local veterinary offices. 217-9528, pikespeakpetpantry.org.

**Project Angel Heart** needs volunteers to help deliver free, nutritious meals to those living with life-threatening illnesses. Apply online for more information. projectangelheart.org.

**Rocky Mountain Field Institute** seeks volunteers age 16-plus for several trail restoration projects around the Pikes Peak Region, including Waldo Canyon workdays and a "Volunteer Vacation" on Blanca Peak. 471-7736, rmfi@rmfi.org, rmfi.org.

**Safe Place for Pets** seeks foster homes for dogs given away after their owners contracted terminal illnesses. These pets are in need of a safe home until they can be adopted permanently. Safe Place tries to tailor foster homes to the needs of each pet and volunteer. Call or e-mail for more information. 359-0201, info@safeplacepets.org.

**The Secure the Call Foundation** is seeking donations of old cell phones to reprogram for direct 911 calls for free distribution to senior centers, domestic violence shelters and other agencies. 888/883-6628, securethecall.org.

**Spirit of America Response (SOAR)** seeks volunteers to help with office duties as well as other programs offered by the organization. Call or go online for more info. 229-8280, lotuscenterco.org.

**MORE**
**Search all other listings online at csindy.com**

## How to Submit a Listing

**Listings is a free service we offer to our readers. If you'd like to publicize an event or notice,** send us the details — who, what, where, when, how much and publishable contact information — in writing **by Wednesday at noon for the following Wednesday's paper**. If humanly possible, please do so at csindy.com: Simply click "Submit an event" at the bottom of the homepage, and the rest is self-explanatory. Other means of submission include e-mail (listings@csindy.com) or fax (577-4107). One-time events typically make it into the issue on the Wednesday leading up to that event; ongoing events sometimes are included in additional issues. That said, events are included on a space-available basis, meaning we can't ever guarantee a listing will make it into print. So we strongly discourage relying on Listings as your sole source of publicity — if you'd like to guarantee placement in the *Indy*, you can purchase an ad in our classifieds section or in our retail advertising section by calling 577-4545. Questions? E-mail listings@csindy.com or call 577-4545.

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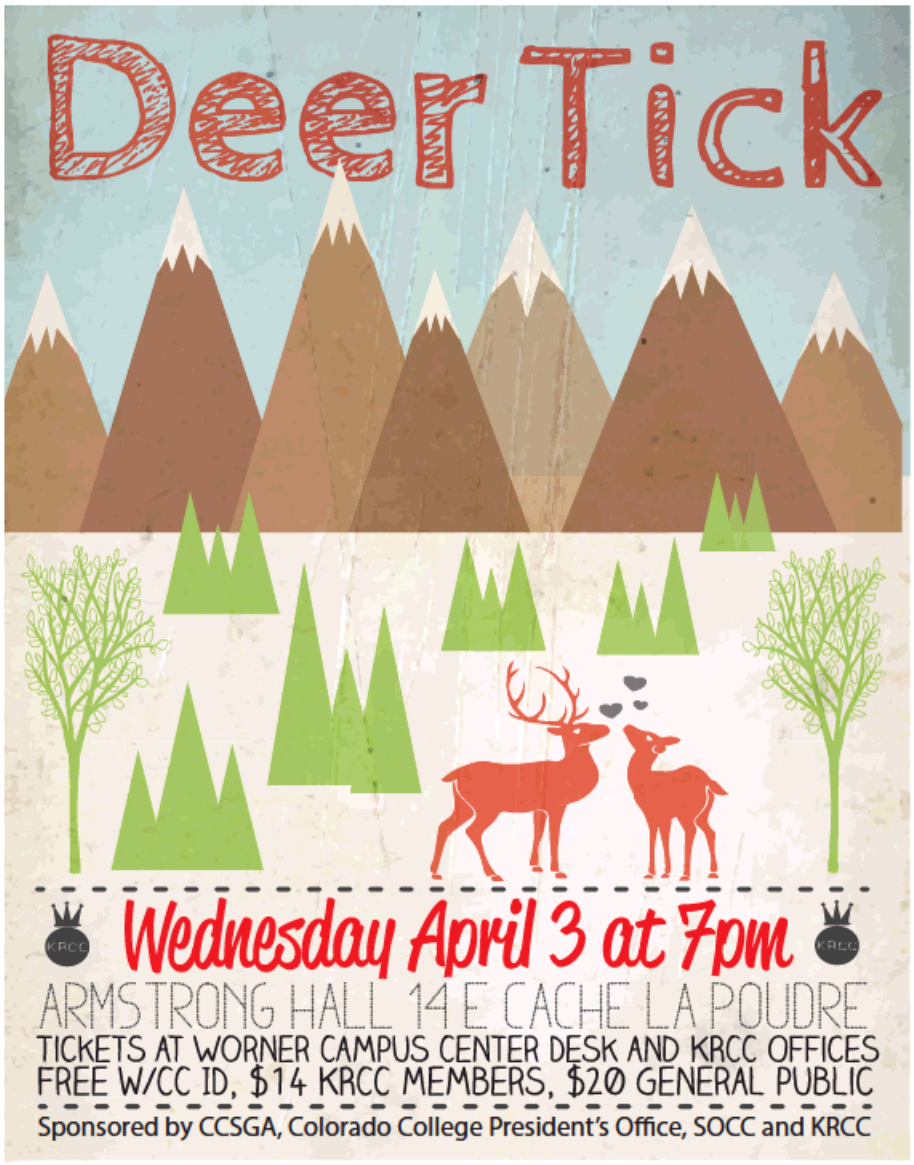
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# StrangerThanFiction

## Curses, foiled again

After agreeing to give a stranger a ride to a convenience store in Spotsylvania County, Va., a 29-year-old man bought some items at the store and returned to his pickup truck. The stranger assaulted and robbed him, then hopped into a waiting car, which drove off. The victim called 911 and followed in his truck but lost sight of the getaway car. Sheriff's Deputy Chad Polliard kept searching and found the vehicle 10 miles from the robbery scene with its blinkers flashing after it ran out of gas. He arrested suspects Johnny Ray Brooks, 28, and Jon Dean Kimmel, 37, who were standing beside the vehicle. (Fredericksburg's *The Free Lance-Star*)

Police investigating a drive-by shooting that wounded 13 people in the District of Columbia identified Craig Steven Wilson, 19, after surveillance videos showed shots fired from a vehicle registered to him at the scene. Wilson was also wearing a court-ordered electronic ankle bracelet with a GPS tracking device, which indicated his movements coincided with those of one of the shooters. (*The Washington Post*)

## Future in the past

Outbox, a new startup, charges people $4.99 a month to digitize their mail. A driver, known as an "unpostman," stops at subscribers' homes three times a week to collect letters, bills, magazines and advertisements delivered by official letter carriers, and then takes them to a warehouse. There, they're opened and photographed to create digital files, which are sent electronically to recipients. Outbox co-founder said the company already has more than 600 customers in Austin, Texas, and just began service in San Francisco. (CNN)

Polaroid Fotobar opened its first store in Delray Beach, Fla., where it offers customers the opportunity to turn pictures on cell phones and other digital devices into prints that replicate traditional Polaroid instant photos. Prices begin at $1. "Digital is not permanent," Warren Struhl, Fotobar's founder and CEO, said. "Physical is permanent." (Associated Press)

## Gun goofs

After an explosion at an ammunition factory in Bend, Ore., the sprinkler system ran for 90 minutes, contaminating the water and requiring a year's cleanup effort. Much contamination was in underground shooting areas, where Nosler Inc. tests bullets. "It was mainly lead-related, as you might imagine from a bullet manufacturer," said Cliff Walkey of the Department of Environmental Quality. (Bend's *The Bulletin*)

Tracer rounds fired at a Dallas shooting range apparently triggered a four-alarm fire that engulfed the one-story building. About 50 people inside the range when the fire broke out managed to escape safely, according to Dallas Fire-Rescue official Jason Evans, who said a shooter at the range admitted firing unauthorized tracer ammunition, producing a small flare that makes following a round's path easier but can ignite the target backing. After the blaze was doused, security personnel were dispatched to the wreckage to prevent looters from taking at least 100 handguns, assault rifles and ammunition amid the debris. (Houston's KHOU-TV)

## Drone on

The University of North Dakota became the first to offer a degree program in unmanned aviation, although it's just one of many academic settings, along with companies and individuals, preparing for the day when cheap, remote-controlled aircraft will occupy civilian air space. "The sky's going to be dark with these things," predicted Chris Anderson, who runs 3D Robotics, which sells unmanned aerial vehicles. (*The New York Times*)

The Defense Department is creating a medal for drone pilots and cyberwarfare specialists that recognizes "extraordinary achievements that directly impact on combat operations, but do not involve acts of valor or physical risks that combat entails." The new Distinguished Warfare Medal ranks just above the Bronze Star with Valor device, which is awarded for specific heroic acts that are performed under fire in combat. (*Marine Corps Times*)

Celebrity news and gossip media outlet TMZ has applied for a permit to use drones to follow the activities of its targets, according to reports, which TMZ and the Federal Aviation Administration have denied. By 2015, TMZ and virtually anyone else will be able to use drones for private and commercial purposes, such as taking photos, shooting videos, conducting research, providing security surveillance and advertising. (*The Washington Times*)

Numerous media outlets, citing U.S. Customs and Border Protection documents obtained via the Freedom of Information Act, reported that the federal government possesses unmanned aerial vehicles capable of detecting guns and tracking citizens via their cell-phone signals. The agency explained it merely wants its 10 border-patrolling drones to be equipped with cameras capable of zooming in close enough to see whether people crossing the border from Mexico are holding a gun in their hands, but Amie Stepanovich, an attorney with the Electronic Privacy Information Center, pointed out that the technology "is only going to get cheaper and easier to implement," and will soon expand to other government departments and agencies. (*The Washington Times*)

**Compiled by Roland Sweet. Send clippings, citing source and date, to P.O. Box 8130, Alexandria, VA 22306.**

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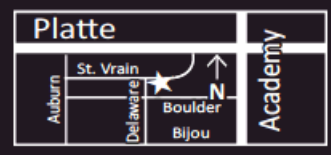


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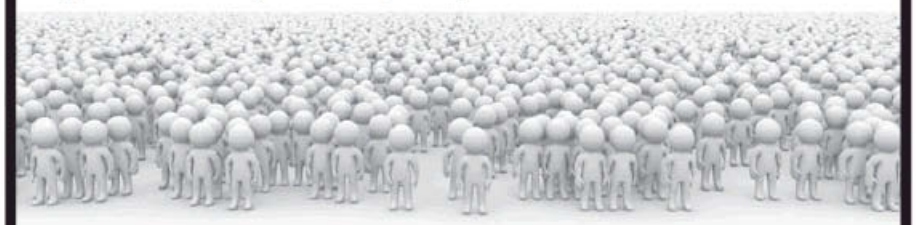

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# CannaBiz

Medical marijuana news of the week

## Scorched Earth

The March 24 post on the Colorado Springs Police Department's blotter is, of course, quite matter-of-fact. "Unknown suspects unlawfully entered two businesses in the multi unit business complex," it reads, noting that for one of the locations, "a significant amount of Medical Marijuana and Marijuana Infused product was taken from the business."

But the impact of that event isn't easily accepted among the family of Justin Flowers, owner of the west-side's **Green Earth Wellness Center** (519 N. 30th St., greenearthwellnesscenter.com). In an e-mail to the *Indy*, his wife, Rachael Shavor, writes that the door was found open, with all the cannabis and infused-products stolen; and the center's computers, point-of-sale system and "$25,000 worth of [security] cameras" destroyed.

Flowers' sister, Marcea, a prominent member of the Springs' art scene, posted to her Facebook page that the other ruined equipment was worth some $7,000. "Then they busted bottles filled with liquid all over, smashed his showcases and whatever else they could destroy."

The center's Facebook page says it will reopen on Thursday, March 28. Police say there are currently no known suspects; in any case, Shavor says she just hopes locals will empathize.

"I want this town to know what the face of medical marijuana is," she writes, "a loving couple with two beautiful children and a couple of ancient pugs, [who] struggle pay check to pay check with our main focus on helping people."

## No jokes

**Trichome Health Consultants** (2117 W. Colorado Ave., thcmed.com) was all set to unveil "the World's 1st All You Can Toke Comedy Show," as the patient-only-event was described, until it hit a rather formidable speed bump that killed the March 31 event.

"We are no longer allowed to host the world's first Jokes n' Tokes," writes the center's Cami Hall in an e-mail, because "city officials came down to my dispensary and said it would violate our business license."

## Keef crumbs

• At 7 p.m. on Monday, April 1, the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., in University Center 302, 255-3471) will host a free discussion and screening of ***Breaking the Taboo***, a 2011 documentary about the war on drugs narrated by Morgan Freeman and featuring interviews with former presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter.

• An analysis by *MMJ Business Daily*, an online trade publication edited by former *Gazette* writer Chris Walsh, says **sales of medical marijuana** in the U.S. could top out at $1.5 billion in 2013, an increase of 10 to 15 percent from last year. Longer-term, all "state legal" cannabis sales could reach $6 billion by 2018.

***— Bryce Crawford***

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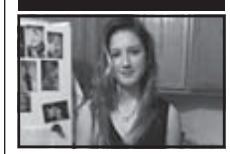

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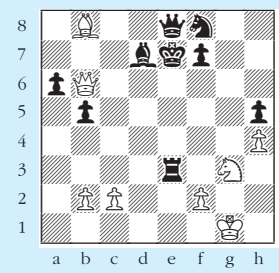

**WHITE'S BEST MOVE?**
Hint: Better than Qxe3ch.

For puzzle answers, see page 53

Independent

# AdviceGoddess

By Amy Alkon

## Ex-rated movie

*I've been with my boyfriend for a year. We were best friends and talked about everything — what our kids would be like, projects we'd do together, magical worlds, and even other people we found attractive. Then, on his computer, I accidentally clicked on what I thought was just some porn video, but I recognized his blanket and realized it was he and his ex-girlfriend having sex (when they were dating). I had a very hard time seeing him with someone else and have become very sensitive and jealous, and this has set our relationship on edge. We don't talk as we used to. So many areas have become off-limits (even just who he had lunch with) because he's so afraid that anything he says will upset or hurt me. I want to communicate as we used to when I was his "cool girlfriend." — Shut Out*

Katharine Hepburn could have made a sex tape without anyone ever knowing, because after the 8 mm film got transferred to video, her image would have been hard to discern from that of Ernest Borgnine, Sasquatch, or Yogi Bear.

Thanks to technological advances, whenever some dermatologist in Idaho clicks up Kim Kardashian's sex tape, her agent probably gets a call telling him she's got some 2 mm birthmark that needs looking at. As distressing as it is that you could probably pick your boyfriend's ex out of a lineup — one from the waist down — it's not like you found footage of him clubbing squirrels. You just got unfortunate visual confirmation of what you already knew: He had a girlfriend before you. They did more than spoon.

**He had a girlfriend before you. They did more than spoon.**

Jealousy is a good thing when it rears its little green head to warn of an actual threat to the relationship: "Eeek! He's having sex with another woman ..." But jealousy needs a slap in the mouth from reason when there is no real threat: " ... and it happened a year before we'd even met." To help yourself think rationally, don't be nebulously hysterical ("I'm afraaaaid!"). Verbalize exactly what you're actually afraid of — probably that he'd leave you, maybe for his ex. Next, consider what would happen if he actually did. The world would not end. Your head would not fall off, roll under the bed, and become a cat toy. You'd probably sob into your pillow for a few months, but you'd eventually get over him and get on with your life.

To get back the relationship you had, start acting as if you'd never lost it — meaning, when your boyfriend asks you the time, you just tell him; you don't shriek that all you can see is that clock on the nightstand in his sex video. There's a good deal of research, laid out by psychologist Dr. Richard Wiseman in *The As If Principle*, that suggests that changing how you behave is actually the fastest, most effective way to change how you feel. Let your boyfriend know that you know your fears aren't rational, that you're going to stop acting like they are, and that he, in turn, needs to stop treating you like a bomb that could be triggered by "pass the salt." Before long, you should be his cool girlfriend again — faster, probably, if that blanket from the video finds its way to some homeless man. Ideally, he should be one who isn't in your neighborhood, lest your response to "Spare change?" be "You whore!"

## Jest not that into you

*Women always say they like a man with a good sense of humor. What exactly does that mean? I think I'm funny. Do I have to bust right out with a bunch of hilarity on the first date? — A Guy*

If a woman agrees to go out with you, it isn't so she can finally find out why the chicken crossed the road. She either wants a free dinner or wants to figure out whether you're worth seeing again. You're unlikely to score a second date by pelting her with jokes and one-liners, which suggests you prepared for the evening by memorizing the joke book on the back of the toilet. What impresses a woman are shows of wit — spontaneous expressions of humor in response to something she says or something around you. Wit reflects intelligence while communicating your worldview — telling her who you are far more interestingly than droning on about your major and your dream to someday get your boss to assign you a better parking space. That said, don't get so caught up in making her laugh that you forget that connecting with her is the point. Make her feel like a one-woman audience for your "act" and she'll figure out for herself why the chicken crossed the road. (Because it would rather be hit by a car than listen to another one of your jokes.)

***Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave., #280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or e-mail adviceamy@aol.com (advicegoddess.com). Alkon is the author of* I See Rude People: One Woman's Battle To Beat Some Manners Into Impolite Society.**

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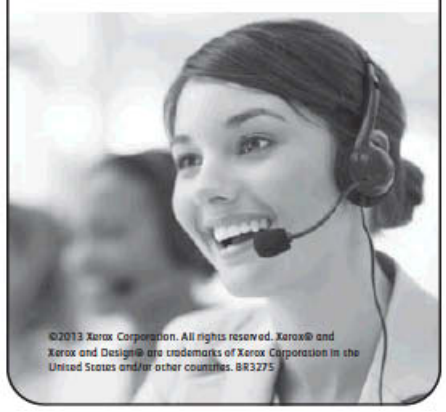

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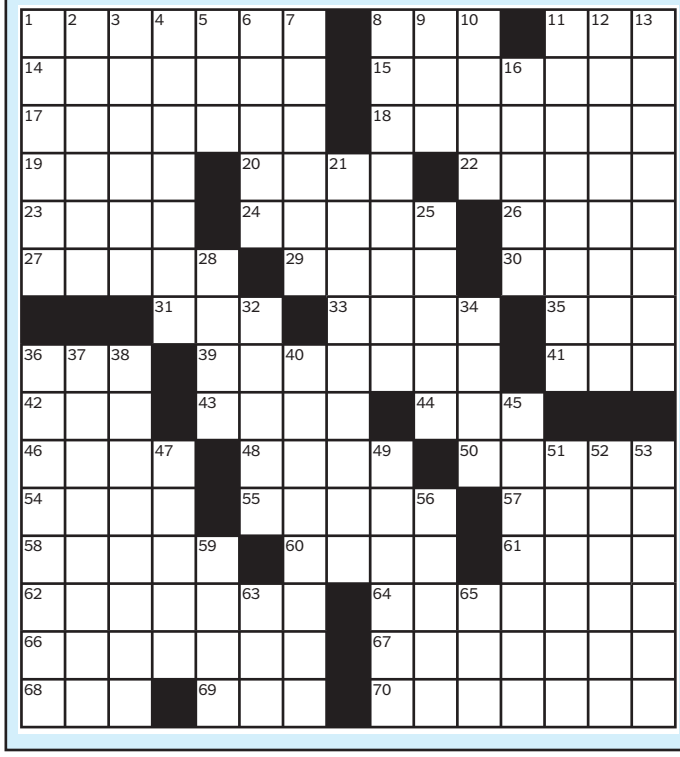

## The New York Times Crossword

### ACROSS
1 Dust Bowl phenomenon
8 Word with oyster or rose
11 Chatter
14 "Verrry interesting!"
15 Facebook co-founder Saverin
17 Total
18 Shades, e.g.
19 Travel option
20 "Grand, ungodly, godlike man" of fiction
22 Latin lover's whisper
23 It might avoid a collar
24 "No ___!"
26 Biblical hunter
27 Last Pope Paolo, numerically
29 Goose : gaggle :: ___ : knot
30 Hotel room option
31 Be off
33 Press
35 Hierarchical level: Abbr.
36 Charmin and others, for short
39 Started
41 Hi-___
42 Move like a 29-Across
43 Stipend source
44 "Bewitched" wife, familiarly
46 Norway's patron saint
48 Skedaddles
50 Spin-heavy shot
54 Spin-o-___ (360° hockey maneuver)
55 Commercial snack cakes
57 Unbelievable, say
58 A satellite may be kept in it
60 First name in the 2012 Republican primary
61 Enterprise counselor
62 Private performances?
64 Discuss in detail
66 Pull in the driveway, say
67 Orchestrate
68 Suffers from
69 What cats and waves do
70 Seafloor features

### DOWN
1 Overshadows
2 Traditional Irish brew
3 Radio format
4 Howl
5 Econ. stat
6 ___ blazes
7 ___ wonder (Tone Loc or Crowded House, e.g.)
8 Apiarist's facial display
9 Big name in ice cream
10 Offenbach's "Belle nuit, ô nuit d'amour," e.g.
11 Like frying vis-à-vis baking
12 Unwillingness to yield
13 New York City composition
16 Every seven days
21 See 32-Down
25 See 32-Down
28 "Carmina Burana" composer
32 With 21- and 25-Down, lacking refinement … like this puzzle's grid?
34 Cracker topper
36 Leaving no stone unturned
37 One is named for the explorer James Ross
38 Mass junk mailers
40 Worker's advocate
45 "The Bad News Bears" actor
47 Islam, e.g.
49 "Who cares?"
51 Unisex wrap
52 Shed, with "off"
53 In groups
56 "Octopus's Garden" singer
59 Utility belt item
63 Actress Thurman
65 Sign of a hit

**For puzzle answers, please see pg. 53**

*From NYT Syndicate*

# FreeWillAstrology

By Rob Brezsny

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): I was too lazy to write your horoscope this week, so I went to a website that hawks bumper stickers and copied a few of their slogans to use as your "advice." Here you go. 1. Never follow a rule off a cliff. 2. Have the courage to honor your peculiarities. 3. It's never too late to have a rebellious adolescence. 4. Criticize by creating. 5. Never make anything simple and efficient when it can be elaborate and wonderful. 6. Complex problems have simple, easy-to-understand, morally clear, wrong answers. APRIL FOOL! I lied. I wasn't lazy at all. I worked hard to ensure that all the suggestions I just provided are in strict accordance with the astrological gestalt.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): It's a perfect time to watch the cult classic film *Night of the Day of the Dawn of the Son of the Bride of the Return of the Revenge of the Terror of the Attack of the Evil, Mutant, Alien, Flesh Eating, Hellbound, Zombified Living Dead*. It will provide you with just the right inspiration as you deal with your own problems. APRIL FOOL! I lied. Don't you dare watch any horror movies. You're in a phase when you can make dramatic progress in transforming long-standing dilemmas — but only if you surround yourself with positive, uplifting influences.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): The coming week will be an excellent time to wash dishes, clean bathrooms, scrub floors, vacuum carpets, wash windows, do laundry, and clean the refrigerator. The more drudge work you do, the better you'll feel. APRIL FOOL! I lied. The truth is, you now have astrological license to minimize your participation in boring tasks like the ones I named. It's high time for you to seek out the most interesting work and play possible.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): You know what would be a really cool prank to pull off this April Fool's Day? Arrange to have rubber tires airlifted into a dormant volcano, then set them on fire. Smoke will pour out the top. Everyone who lives nearby will think the volcano is getting ready to explode. Don't forget to videotape the event for YouTube. Later, when you reveal the hoax, your video will go viral and you'll become a celebrity. APRIL FOOL! I don't really think you should try this prank. It's old hat. Back in 1974, a guy named Porky Bickar did it to Alaska's Mt. Edgecumbe. Here's my real oracle for you: It *is* a good time to boost your visibility by doing something funny. Or to build your brand by being mischievous. Or to demonstrate your power by showing off your sense of humor.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): In the animated TV show *The Simpsons*, 10-year-old Bart is constantly getting into trouble because of the monkey business he loves to perpetrate. His teachers punish him by compelling him to write corrective declarations on the classroom blackboard. It so happens that some of those apologetic statements should be coming out of your mouth in the coming week, Leo. They include the following: "I will not strut around like I own the place. I will not claim that I am deliciously saucy. I will not instigate revolution. I will not trade pants with others. I will not carve gods. I will not Xerox my butt. I will not scream for ice cream." APRIL FOOL! I lied. The truth is, you SHOULD consider doing things like that. And don't apologize!

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The sport of ferret legging is an endurance contest. Participants vie to determine who can last longest as a live ferret runs loose inside their pants. The current record is five hours and 26 minutes, held by a retired British miner. But I predict that a Virgo will soon break that mark. Could it be you? APRIL FOOL! I misled you. I don't really think you should put a ferret in your pants, not even to win a contest. It is possible, however, that there will soon be a pleasurable commotion happening in the area below your waist. And I suspect that you will handle it pretty well.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Risk being a crazed fool for love, Libra. Get as wild and extreme as you've ever been if it helps you rustle up the closeness you're hungry for. Get down on your knees and beg, or climb a tree with a megaphone and profess your passion. APRIL FOOL! I was exaggerating a little. It's true that now is an excellent time to be aggressive about going after the intimate connection you want. But I suggest you accomplish that by being ingenious and imaginative rather than crazy and extreme.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): British comedy team Monty Python did a sketch in which a policeman apprehends a criminal. The bad guy says, "Yes, I did it, but society is to blame." And the cop says, "Right! We'll arrest them instead." You should adopt this attitude, Scorpio. Blame everyone else but yourself for your problems and flaws. APRIL FOOL! I lied. In fact, the truth is the opposite of what I said. It's time to take more responsibility for your actions. Bravely accept the consequences of what you've done — with your sense of humor fully engaged and a lot of compassion for yourself.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Banzai skydiving is a step beyond ordinary skydiving. To do it, you hurl your folded-up parachute out of the airplane, wait a while, and then leap into mid-air yourself. If all goes well, you free-fall in the direction of your parachute and catch up to it. Once you grab it, you strap it on and open the chute, ideally before you hit the earth. This is the kind of beyond-ballsy activity that would be perfect for you right now. APRIL FOOL! In truth, I don't recommend banzai skydiving now or ever. Plain old skydiving is fine, though. The same principle applies in relation to any adventurousness you're considering: Push yourself, yes, but not to an absurd degree.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Should you relocate to Kazakhstan and grow sunflowers? Is it time to think about getting a job in Uruguay and living there for the next 10 years? Can you see yourself building your dream home in Morocco on a bluff overlooking the Atlantic Ocean? I suggest you spend some quality time thinking way, way outside the box about where you belong on this earth. APRIL FOOL! I went a bit overboard in my recommendations. It is true that you should brainstorm about the kind of home you want to create and enjoy in the future. But that probably means revising and refining your current situation rather than leaving it all behind and starting over.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your brain has a bigger capacity than you realize. According to professor of psychology Paul Reber, it can hold the equivalent of three million hours' worth of television shows. As I'm sure you know, your brain is not even close to being full of that much data. And in accordance with the current astrological omens, I suggest you cram in as much new material as possible. APRIL FOOL! I told you a half-truth. While it's correct that now is an excellent time to pour more stuff into your brain, you should be highly discerning about what you allow in there. Seek out the richest ideas, the most stimulating information, the best stories. Avoid trivial crap.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): July 2012 was a sad time in the history of mythic creatures. The National Ocean Service, a U.S. government agency, made a formal proclamation that there are no such things as mermaids. But I predict those stuffy know-it-alls will soon get a big shock, when a Piscean scientist presents evidence that mermaids are indeed real. APRIL FOOL! I was exaggerating. I don't really foresee the discovery of a flesh-and-blood mermaid — by a Pisces or anyone else. I do, however, suspect that your tribe is now highly adept at extracting useful revelations and inspirations from dreams, visions, and fantasies — including at least one that involves a coven of Buddhist Ninja clown mermaids.

**HOMEWORK:** What quality or behavior in you would most benefit from healthy self-mocking? Tell how you keep yourself honest. Write freewillastrology.com.

Go to **RealAstrology.com** to check out Rob Brezsny's **EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES** and **DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES**. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at **1-877-873-4888** or 1-900-950-7700.

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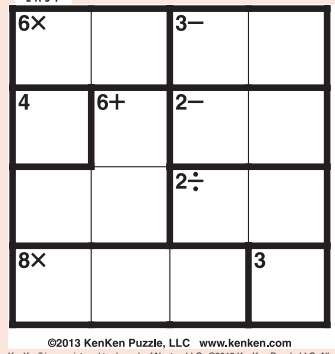
**SUDUKO X**

**Complete the grid so that every row, column, diagonal and 3x3 box contain the numbers 1 to 9. Use logic to define the answers. Answers on page 53**

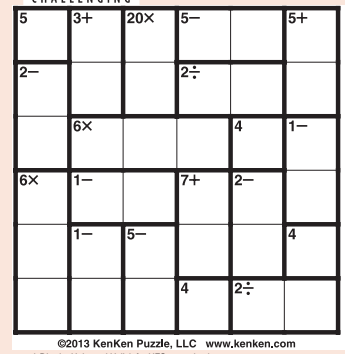
## KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY




CHALLENGING

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Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a number in any row or column, and so that the digits within each heavily outlined cage will produce the target number show by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division. A 4x4 grid uses the digits 1,2,3,4, while a 6x6 grid uses the numbers 1-6.

**For puzzle answers, see page 53**

**RULES**

1. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
2. The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
3. Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

# EndZone

By Ralph Routon

## Bud Palmer, class to the end

When the news came last week that **John "Bud" Palmer** had died of cancer in Florida at 91, hardly anyone in Colorado Springs knew enough to react.

But the *New York Times* provided a lengthy obituary, which should help those who don't understand the significance of Palmer's life. After all, he was a former network-level sportscaster, as the *Times* described, and he even helped shape the history of basketball. But he also spent a lot of time in the Springs visiting his sister and meeting others on his many visits. And it was many, as we'll get to later. First, though, let's remember Bud Palmer the media figure.

I remember, as a child, being mesmerized by Palmer's smooth demeanor as he covered the 1960 Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley, Calif. He did CBS-TV play-by-play for men's ice hockey and the first Miracle on Ice, as the United States shocked the Soviet Union for the gold medal. The coverage might not have been as all-consuming as it is today, but Palmer still made a deep impression, which continued that summer when he helped with the Summer Games in Rome.

Four years later, working for ABC at the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Palmer had arguably his biggest TV moment, calling the race when U.S. runner **Billy Mills**, a Native American from South Dakota, came from nowhere to shock the world in the 10,000 meters. Palmer later would help with ABC coverage of the Winter Olympics, continuing through 1998 in Nagano, Japan, in his late 70s.

But during the 1960s and '70s, Palmer was seemingly everywhere, covering major events at different times for all three networks. He was a fixture at Grand Slam tennis tournaments, including the U.S. Open; he worked many National Basketball Association and National Hockey League championships as well as all-star games; he covered stock-car races, most notably the Daytona 500 from 1979 through 2000; he worked many pro golf tournaments, the Kentucky Derby and the pro bowling tour. Along the way, he served as a host and producer for *CBS Sports Spectacular* and ABC's *Wide World of Sports*.

Palmer also made history in 1961 in Colorado Springs, doing play-by-play for the first network coverage of the U.S. Figure Skating Championships at the old Broadmoor World Arena. That became the prelude to tragedy, because all of the top American skaters perished a month later in a plane crash en route to the World Championships in Europe.

But even then, Palmer was no stranger to Colorado Springs. In fact, this was more like his second home.

His sister, **Barbara (Bobbie) Shove Palmer Webb**, lived in Colorado Springs until her death last year at 94. Because of physical afflictions, Bud couldn't make it here for his sister's funeral. But it was evident in a subsequent e-mail to *Indy* columnist **John Hazlehurst**, thanking him for writing about her (City Sage, Jan. 19, 2012), that Palmer clearly hadn't lost his other faculties.

"I think that I was five and Bobbie nine when we first visited my great uncle, Gene Shove, in the Springs. She later lived in the same house for sixty-five years and I visited almost every year. Uncle Gene and his great friends, Penrose, Tutt, Carlton, Dr. Gerald Webb and others gave Colorado Springs such a vital Western personality which my sister and I will never forget."

Palmer's ties to Colorado ran deeper. In the early 1970s, he moved to Vail and became one of the partners in developing that world-renowned ski resort. Soon thereafter, he was among the organizers of the state's first NHL franchise, known in the 1970s as the Colorado Rockies.

Palmer's obituary brought more surprises: He was a college basketball, soccer and lacrosse All-American at Princeton, where he was credited among basketball's pioneers of the jump shot. And in 1946, he became the first player to serve as team captain of the New York Knicks.

I never met Bud Palmer, though we covered plenty of the same events, and he never displayed the self-obsessed ego that many of his peers did. But he did come to Colorado Springs enough times to endear himself to many longtime acquaintances. Among those is our own Hazlehurst, who offers this thoughtful epitaph:

"He was such a wonderful man in every respect — a true aristocrat, a man without arrogance or false pride, who spent his life enriching the lives of those around him."

*— routon@csindy.com*

### SPORTS SHOT

**Too bad** It was a great closing run for Colorado College hockey, just missing the NCAA Tournament. Many fast-developing young players should make the Tigers solid next season.

**Next week** With so many roster and lineup decisions still uncertain, we'll preview the Colorado Rockies in the next issue, just after the season begins.

**Disaster** Can't say anything good now about Mountain West Conference men's basketball, after getting five NCAA bids and nobody surviving the first weekend.

**Don't fret** Yes, the Denver Broncos might miss pass-rusher Elvis Dumervil, but he also might underachieve in Baltimore.

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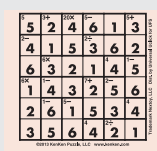
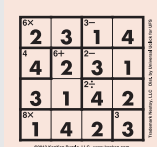
## KENKEN





## Crossword

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## CHESS QUIZ

*From page 49:*
1. Nf5ch! Bxf5
2. Qd6 mate.

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# RangerRich

By Rich Tosches

## Preaching from the converted

Potential 2016 presidential candidate **Chris Christie**, R-Dunkin' Donuts, has long been an object of fantasy for gays and lesbians. Specifically, they fantasize about using him as a waterbed.

But the popular New Jersey governor may have lost some ground with those groups the other day when he began to waffle — hey, was that another food joke? — about whether he supports a proposed ban on so-called gay conversion therapy in that state.

You remember gay conversion therapy, right? It was a big deal back in the 1990s for our very own Focus on the Family ("In Our Cafeteria, Even the Curly Fries Are Straight"). Back then, Focus hired a self-proclaimed gay convert, **John Paulk**, to spread the word.

But Paulk got caught in a well-known Washington, D.C. gay bar, and the best defense he could muster was to claim he only went in because he had to use the restroom. (The name of the bar? Mr. P's. Go figure.)

In the ensuing decade or so, the idea of converting gays and lesbians through prayer became little more than a joke. Most experts believe such therapy can even be dangerous.

Which brings us to current events. Last week, New Jersey legislators pushed forward a bill that would make it illegal to keep a dead guy in the trunk of your car for more than a week. No, seriously, the law would ban gay conversion therapy.

(It took Christie a couple days to say, via a spokesperson, that he "does not believe" in such therapy. Whether he'd sign the bill was still unclear.)

Meanwhile, here in Colorado, Gov. **John Hickenlooper** signed a civil-union bill, giving same-sex couples some of the rights of marriage. Surveys show most Americans now approve of such unions. (In another survey, most Republicans said babies are brought by the stork. Except for progressive Republicans, who point to new research showing babies are actually found in a cabbage patch.)

**Johnston is 'gender issues analyst' at CitizenLink.**

And Focus on the Family? As if striving to be even more irrelevant, the evangelical panhandlers have decided to stick by their eye-of-newt, wing-of-bat cures for whatever they find incongruent.

Assisting Focus in its battle to cling to the 19th century is our local *Gazette* (motto: Delivering the News to Your Door by Horseless Carriage). Last week, it ran a story about 6-year-old transgender **Coy Mathis** of Fountain, who made the news when her parents demanded she be allowed to use the girls' restroom at her school.

From the *G*: "... there are two primary views on transgenderism. Perhaps most prominent is the belief that transgender individuals can and should strive to live as the sex God assigned them in the womb."

Well, well. There's some objective reporting. God assigns a sex in the womb for every baby. With some 7 billion people, this would seem to leave little time for God to perform his other important tasks: sticking a foot in **Mitt Romney**'s mouth; making U.S. Rep. **Doug Lamborn** appear a few tacos short of a Fiesta Platter; and bumping the barber's arm when giving El Paso County Sheriff **Terry Maketa** his last haircut.

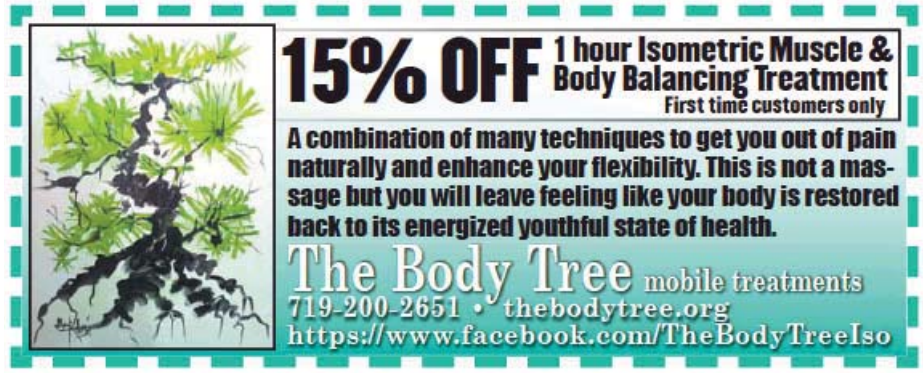
More *Gazette*: "CitizenLink, an affiliate of Colorado Springs-based Focus on the Family that explains policy issues from a biblical perspective, is concerned by laws that allow transgender people to use the restrooms of their choice in public places."

With all of the issues facing humanity these days, I think I speak for the group when I say, "Yup, that's the one we should be concentrating on, or the next thing you know **Ellen DeGeneres** is going to start leaving the toilet seat up."

Turns out CitizenLink, as the *Gazette* puts it, "encourages people to seek counseling to work their way out of transgenderism." It even has a brand-new version of John Paulk. His name is **Jeff Johnston** and he's CitizenLink's "gender issues analyst" and, well, stop me if you've heard this one: "Johnston," the *Gazette* reported, "said he used to struggle with same-sex attraction but was able to overcome being gay through prayer and counseling."

It's enough to make you want to jump off the edge of the Earth. Which is, by the way, a feeling that can be overcome if you stand on one leg at midnight, face the moon, stick a miller moth up your nose and swing a young raccoon over your head seven times.

*Rich Tosches (rangerrich@csindy.com) also writes a Sunday column in the* **Denver Post.**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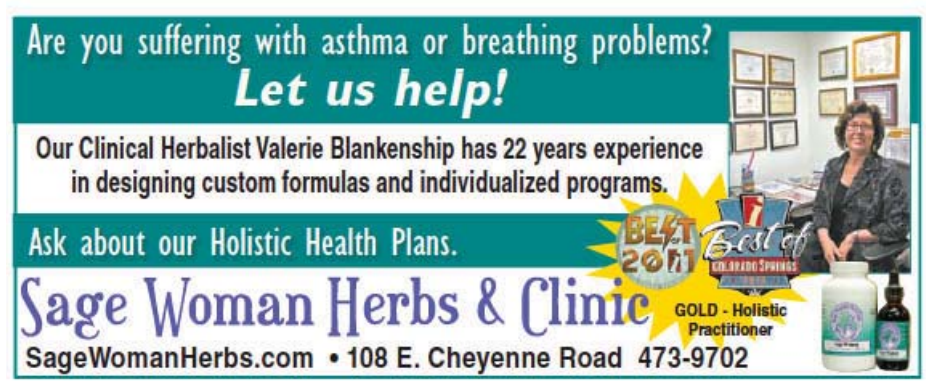
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